# **EXHIBIT 1**

Carail	Shaughnessy Murphy	@gmail.com>
Debate Items-Please Review 3 messages		and the second
jeremy deutsch < @aol.com> To: Todd Weiner < @holmail.com> < @gmail.com>, Stan Shore < Shaughnessy Murphy	>, Brett ODonnell @odacc @politicalservices.org>, Riva @gmail.com>, Patrick Bell	Fri, Oct 5, 2012 at 9:49 AM ommunications.com>, Dawn Sugasa Litman @gmail.com>, @patbell.com>
Good Morning: Attached to this email please find a mem supporting documentation. Please start upcoming week. I look forward to discus in the district. I am meeting cmr at 10:30 12 or so, Thank you, Jeremy	reading the memo and agenda sing in further detail and our de	as it sets the stage for the bate prep loday, this weekend and
5 attachments	а, и уул үүрө өөгө Монгаа хүйлэгэн эргэн	
Debate Agenda docx 58K		
memo.docx 112K		
General Election Q and ACMR.do	o¢ .	
10-1-12 PB Cowan Research.docx	.docx	
回 10 Questions.docx 143K		
Shaughnessy Murphy < @aol.com>	@gmail.com>	Fri, Oct 5, 2012 at 10:50 AM
Are we positive the ksps debate is at 11: [Quoted text hidden]	:00 am?	
Dawn Sugasa <dmsugasa@gmail.com> To: jeremy deutsch &lt; @gmail.com&gt;, To @odacommunications.com&gt;, Stan S @gmail.com&gt;, Shaughnessy M @patbell.com&gt;</dmsugasa@gmail.com>	Shore @politicalservices.c	Fri, Oct 5, 2012 at 11:52 AM l.com>, Brett ODonnell rg>, Riva Litman @gmall.com>, Patrick Bell
Here's the location for Monday's debate	prep:	
Potlatch Conference Room 601 West First Ave., Suite 1600		

I reserved it from 2-6 pm. They're entire executive team is out of town next week so it will be really quiet. I will meet you guys over there and make sure you get in okay.

Spokane, Washington 99201

file://C:\Documents and Settings\smurphy2\Desktop\OCE\10.5.12 Debate Related.htm

SMOGE-0131

Let me know if you need anything else. Thanks,

Dawn (Quoted text hidden)

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SMOQE-0132

## Debate Agenda Friday, October 5th-Tuesday, October 7th

Friday, October 5th, Debate Prep (2:00-3:30)

2:00-3:00

Practice Q&A

3:00-3:30

Practice Opening and Closing Statements

Call-in

877-680- code:

Sunday, October 5th, Debate Prep (3:30-5:30)

3:30-4:30

Mock Debate I

4:30-5:30

Mock Debate II

Call-in

877-680-code:

Monday, October 6th Debate Prep (2:00-5:30)

2:00-3:00

Mock Debate III

3:00-3:30

Debate critique

4:00-5:00

Mock Debate IV

5:00-5:30

Debate critique

Tuesday, October 7th Debate Prep/Debate

9:00-9:30

Warm-up

9:30

Depart for Studio

10:00-11:00 Make-up

11:00-12:00 Deliate

TO:

Todd Winer, Patrick Bell, Brett O'Donnel, Shaughenssy Murphy,

Riva Litman, Stan Shore

FROM:

Jeremy Deutsch

DATE:

October.4, 2012

RE:

Debate Prep and the Week Ahead

As you all know, next week is a very critical week and we must do everything we can to make certain CMR is well prepared for her debates. I wanted to take this opportunity to review a few items and properly set staff expectations.

Attached to this memo please find the following:

- Draft debate agenda for the next couple of days. The agenda gives ample time for practice and also four mock debates. Let me know if you have any thoughts or feedback.
- Research document that Patrick developed. The documentation is very thorough and covers Cowan's major messaging themes, statements and other documentation. Please take time to review.
- Proposed panel questions Todd crafted
- Q&A from the Spokesman
- Opening and closing statements articulating CMR's great accomplishments white also anticipating what Cowan will say about CMR in his statements.

#### Action items:

- Develop draft answers for the questions Todd drafted. What questions and answers are we missing?
- Create a list of factoids that we can anticipate Cowan will hit us on (consult the first page of Patrick's document—Cowan's Major Messaging Themes).
  - o For example, our opponent has spent the last two weeks saying we are not home—so what is the answer? How often are we home?
  - Cowan is the only candidate who has created jobs—he is not a career politician. How many jobs bills have we co-sponsored? How many millions of jobs would that have created? What about our bills we sponsored and passed the House? How many jobs would

be created if signed into law?

- o CMR has cut funding to military and veterans. How have we helped Military and our veterans?
- Cowan will say we cut Medicare and want to privatize Social Security.
- CMR is the pocket of Big Business and Wall Street—just look at her contributions. How many individual donors do we have? How much money comes from the district? State? And DC? Dawn can help us with this question.

## Prep Questions/Briefings CMR

#### Main Messages

Top Line Message: I'll fight for the people of Eastern Washington.

Main Attack:

My opponent says that he created jobs, but he did it at the expense of every other job creator in this state by getting a bill passed that helped his own business that had to be paid for by every other business. We don't need more politicians in Washington who cater to special interests or who take care of themselves. I'll fight for the people of Eastern Washington

My opponent brought Hollywood values to Eastern Washington. I'll fight for Eastern Washington and I've been taking those values to Washington.

#### Q and A

Q: Your opponent says you're running a content free campaign and that you've never created jobs?

A: I've been fighting in Washington to create jobs and turn our economy around. To the thousands of people that wake up every morning without a job, that matters. My opponent says he knows how to create jobs, but what he really knows how to do is bring Hollywood values to Eastern Washington and get a special deal for his business. The problem is that every business should have the same opportunity to create jobs—not just the ones he picks. I'll fight for all businesses and won't let the government pick winners and losers or cater to special interests—that's what's wrong with Washington, DC.

Q: What makes you a better candidate than Cowan in the general election?

A: I grew up here in Eastern Washington. Worked on my parents farm and was raised on Eastern Washington values. I know the value of hard work and know what it takes to create jobs and turn our economy around. That's what I've been fighting for in Washington and I'll keep fighting everyday for the people of Eastern Washington. My opponent fought for Hollywood values and has fought for special interests. That's not what we need in Washington.

Q: Why won't you debate your opponent more? Don't the people of Connecticut deserve more debates?

A: We're here debating today and we'll debate one more time. What's important is that we listen to the people of Eastern Washington and that's what I've spent my time doing. I have spent my time histening to the people of Eastern Washington. Listening to their stories about how the economy has hurt them, their businesses and their lives. It's important that we listen to people and that's what I've been doing.

Q: You were against the Buffet plan and for extending all of the Bush tax cuts. Shouldn't the rich have to pay more?

A: As president Obama said, we can't afford to raise taxes on anyone, including job creators in this economy. We need to extend all of the current tax rates to keep from going over the fiscal cliff, having the largest tax increase in American history and killing American jobs. And we have to avoid sequestration that threatens our national security and jobs right here in Washington. The Buffet plan was an election year gimmick that only would have funded the government for 17 hours.

Q: Your party's nominee said that 47% of Americans don't contribute to our country and are victims that are dependent on the government. Do you agree with that?

A: Of course we need a safety net for those who can't take care of themselves. But we also need to work to create opportunities for all Americans, and its not government that creates those jobs, it's the private market. The numbers of Americans on food stamps and other government programs is staggering. Americans are suffering in this economy. We need to get government out of the way and help job creators create millions of good paying jobs that will help all Americans.

Q: With your party in control of the House, why do you believe that the farm bill did not pass?

A:I enjoy good communication with farmers in my district and with state and national farm organizations. The farmers, farm organizations and myself are more than frustrated that Congress has adjourned without finding a solution to pass a reformed farm bill. Farmers and all Americans who consume farm products have every right to be concerned by Washington's inaction. This is just another illustration of the broken ways of Washington.

The farm bill as currently written fails to reform a problematic budget program. It fails to provide farmers with the certainty they need to sign contracts and prepare for next year's growing season. We need a farm bill that provides for a safe, reliable food supply. I am committed to supporting a solid, reform-minded farm bill that reflects what consumers and farmers need.

Q: What have you done to ensure that a farm bill is passed? Doesn't your failure to get even a vote for the farm bill prove that you've become part of Washington and the elites of the Republican leadership?

A: Unfortunately, since I do not sit on the Agriculture Committee, the best thing I can do is work with Leadership, my colleagues who sit on the Committee and continue to work with state and local farmers to see to it their interests are met.

Q: Don't you think that responsibly ending the Wars in Iraq and Afghanistan is a good thing?

A: Of course, if we were ending the war responsibly. But that is not the case. All Americans are weary of war, but we should never forget that the plot to kill Americans was hatched in the mountains of Afghanistan. While our soldiers are dying, it is my belief that President Obama is playing politics with our troops. I disagreed with announcing a date certain for withdrawal. But we need to end the war in Afghanistan responsibly and make sore our troops are protected as we come home.

O: Do you believe that the United States should go to war with Iran? Syria?

A: No rational human being craves war. War is terrible and only an option of last resort. However, you should never take a military option off the table because you come to negotiations already weaker. If the fear of the U.S. military is off the table, then these countries will continue to believe they can get away with anything. We need to protect our ally Israel and Iran can never be allowed to have a nuclear weapon. We should never put troops in harms way unless there is a vital US national interest and there is a clear mission. I am not convinced that exists yet in Syria.

Q: What in your view should be the United States policy toward China? Russia? North Korea?

Bottom line, an economically and militarily strong United States is the best policy. If we are successful on those two fronts, we will be successful against China, Russia, and North Korea.

Q: Why do you continue to push for these tax cuts which simply add to the debt and provide taxes for the wealthiest individuals? Shouldn't the rich pay more?

A: I want a pro-growth economy. I want to create an environment to allow for job creation. Increasing taxes does not create jobs. It kills them. I will continue to fight for lower taxes. We do not have a revenue problem, we have a spending problem. We can't afford to raise anyone's taxes in this economy, not on job creators or on the middle class.

Q: You voted for the Ryan Budget. Do you believe we should turn Medicare into a voucher system?

A: Let me be clear, no one 55 or older will have their benefits touched. This is election year scare tactics meant to scare seniors into thinking we want to take their benefits away.

The truth is that we have to come together to save Medicare and Social Security. And it was my opponent's party that voted to take 716 Billion away from Medicare.

Lilly Ledbetter/Equal Pay/War on Women

### Points to Make

- I come from a family with a long history of women working both in and out of the home.
- Equal pay for equal work is the law and I fully support it. There should be no difference in pay between a man and a woman performing the same job.
- -This wasn't about ending pay inequality, it was a partisan stunt to line the pockets of trial lawyers.
- In 2009 the President Obama told us that the Lilly Ledbetter Act would ensure equal pay for equal work. It's 3 years later and the wage gap isn't any better.
- It's just one more example of a President and Senate majority that values style over substance.

#### Key Facts

- On average, women work fewer hours than men with many preferring part-time work. (Kay, Hymowitz, Wall Street Journal, April 26, 2012, <a href="http://online.vsj.com/article/SB1000142405270230359240457736188301941429">http://online.vsj.com/article/SB1000142405270230359240457736188301941429</a>
   6.html?mod=googlenews wsj)
- The Democrats are substantially exaggerating the wage disparity by using data that fails to compare men and women working in similar positions. The real wage gap is around 5%. (Natalia A. Kolesnikova and Yang Liu October, Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis, October 2011, http://www.stlouisfed.org/publications/re/articles/?id=2160)
- Almost all, if not all of the wage gap is a product of factors unrelated to workplace discrimination.
   (http://www.consad.com/content/reports/Gender%20Wage%20Gap%20Final%20 Report.pdf)

## Responses to Expected Attacks.

Women are at a disadvantage under the policies of CMR

According to the Department of Labor the actual wage gap is around 5%.

Any wage gap is a problem and worth fighting, but like the rest of the phony "war on women" this is an issue where the Democrats have distorted the facts to suit their political purposes.

The Democrats cherry-picked numbers that don't account for differences in parttime and full-time work, different job responsibilities, or even the number of hours worked. Multiple economists and fact-checking sites have called them out on these numbers yet they continue to use them.

What specifically would you do to fight gender discrimination in the workplace?

- We've made significant progress toward wage equality and I'm convinced that the small remaining gap can be bridged by enforcing the laws we already have. In the final two years of the Bush Administration, the EEOC filed 18 gender-based workplace discrimination lawsuits. In the first 3 years of the Obama administration, the EEOC only file 6.

Taxes

## Points to Make

I support extending the 2001 and 2003 tax cuts in their entirety.

In addition to extending the tax cuts, we need a simplified tax code that the average people can understand without hiring a CPA. By the IRS's own calculations, each year Americans spend more than 6 billion hours preparing their tax returns.

- There are several reasons the President and our current senators are wrong to play class warfare in an effort to raise taxes.

o First, this is the wrong time to raise taxes on anyone. Our number one priority should be job creation and the worst thing we can do right now is take money out of the hands of job creators when the economy is already historically weak. This is just one more example of the failed economic policies of Obama.

Second, the President is wrong to claim that their plan only taxes the rich. Economists estimate that nearly half of all small businesses would see their taxes increase. We aren't talking about the rich. We're talking about small business owners trying to grow their business and create jobs.

o Third, their plan is an election year gimmick that won't address the real problem - spending. In 2001, we were projected to run a \$5.6 trillion surplus over the next ten year. Instead, we ended up running a \$6.1 trillion deficit. If you take a close look at the recent Congressional Budget Office Report, you'll find that only around 4% of that turnaround was a result of the Bush tax cuts that Obama wants to repeal. President Obama added nearly double that amount to the debt just by passing the stimulus bill.

Key Facts

5

Each year Americans spend more than 6 billion hours completing their tax returns. Nina Olsen, IRS taxpayer advocate, January 5, 2011
(http://www.nytimes.com/2011/01/06/business/economy/06tax.html)

Obama's plan would increase taxes on nearly half of all US small businesses.
 Kevin Hassert, Senior Fellow at the AIB, Wall Street Journal, Sept 3, 2010
 (http://online.wsj.com/article/SB100014240527487039597045754540615243262

Only 4% of the budget turnaround of the last 10 years was due to the Bush tax cuts on those making \$250,000 or more. Rob Portman (citing the June CBO report), July 12, 2012 (http://thehill.com/blogs/on-the-money/domestic-taxes/237685-portman-bush-tax-cuts-played-small-role-in-rising-deficits

### Regulations

## Points to Make

- Businesses are being crushed beneath the weight of regulations.

Any plan to grow the economy and create jobs must include freeing our business from the burden of overregulation. One independent study found that eliminating just 5% of our regulatory budget would increase 1.2 million jobs per year. On average, eliminating the job of a single regulator creates 100 jobs and grows the economy by more than \$6 million.

We should start by repealing Dodd-Frank, repealing the President's health care law, and increasing Congressional oversight of the EPA.

 President Obama and his allies have been willing to regulate every corner of our economy. They've dramatically expanded environmental, energy, financial, and health care regulations.

For example, the EPA passed a rule that experts estimate will close more than 30 power plants, drive up the cost of electricity, and eliminate more than 180,000 jobs per year.

#### Key Facts

 Cutting 5% of the regulatory budget would create 1.2 million new jobs.
 PHOENIX CENTER POLICY BULLETIN NO. 28, April 2011, (http://www.phoenix-center.org/PolicyBulletin/PCPB28Final.pdf)

- MACT will shut down 32 power plants. Associated Press, December 20, 2011

("Power Plant Closures to Cost U.S. Town Jobs, Taxes")

MACT will cost 183,000 jobs annually. National Economic Research Associates, September 2011, (Potential Impacts of EPA Air, Coal Combustion Residuals, and Cooling Water Regulations)

### Cowan's Major Messaging Themes

- Rich will represent the interests of this Washington in Congress. Cathy represent the interests of the other Washington.
- Rich was the CEO of North by Northwest, and is the only candidate that has experience creating family-wage jobs.
- Rich wants to protect Medicare, Social Security, and veterans benefits that have been earned by beneficiaries (i.e. not "entitlements,") Cathy wants to cut away the safety net programs.
- Where is Cathy? Rich has been participating in campaign forums all summer, and meeting voters in all corners of the district. Cathy spends her time helping re-elect a broken Congress.
- Rich will put Eastern Washington first, and work to find bi-partisan solutions to the issues voters care about. Cathy is more focused on scoring political points, advancing a partisan agenda, and puts her party first.
- Rich will not become beholden to party leaders like Cathy has in D.C.
- Rich wants to end tax policies that incentivize companies to export jobs.
   He supports lowering the corporate income tax rate by 20% (or half) for companies who create and keep jobs in the U.S.
- Rich believes focusing on infrastructure and education are the keys to job creation.
- Rich wants to put aside the partisan bickering, and return to the cooperative approach of Speaker Tom Foley.
- Rich believes Cathy has done nothing significant to benefit the district over the last 8 years.
- Cathy is trying to buy this election, and has spent much more on TV than
  in past years only to come up shorter in the primary than 2010 (when
  she ran no TV ads).
- Rich will rely on his experience and record of bringing a new industry to the region to create and keep jobs here.
- Rich's values are ensuring civil rights, equal pay, reproductive rights, and marriage equality.

#### Cowan's Positions on the Issues

Source: RichCowanForCongress.com, accessed 10/2/12

#### Jobs and the Economy

As a business owner who actually has done the hard work of building a company and creating jobs in Eastern Washington, I understand what a small business owner needs to deliver sustainable, high-paying jobs in our community. Immediately, we need to strengthen the energy, aerospace, healthcare, and agricultural sectors to be competitive. Aren't you tired of the bickering politicians and the obstructionist partisan leadership in Washington?

#### Training a World-Class Workforce

In order to create jobs and build the local economy here in Eastern Washington, we need schools equipped to prepare our children and grandchildren for 21st Century jobs. From our great local public schools, to our community colleges, to our world class universities, I will fight to get our schools the resources needed to train tomorrow's workers and entrepreneurial innovators.

#### Military Families and Veterans

At a time when we are asking more of our military and their families than ever before, it is shameful that partisan leaders in the House of Representatives continue to cut funding for military families and even veterans. It's wrong to undervalue our service men and women as they and their families have risked so much for our safety. As your representative, I will be a tireless advocate for Fairchild Air Force Base, VA facilities, and our region's proud community of military families and veterans.

#### Infrastructure and Conservation

A strong infrastructure is vital to building the economy in Eastern Washington. We need to ensure that bridges, roads and rail we use to get people to work and to get our goods to market are strong and secure. At the same time we need to be good stewards of our God-given infrastructure by protecting open space and ensure real accountability for polluters who Jeopardize our clean air and water.

#### Agriculture

Agriculture is a critical piece of our economy in Eastern Washington and part of fighting to restore our local economy is making sure that our farmers receive the support they need. From fighting for our farmers' water rights to improving infrastructure to opening up trade with foreign markets for our agricultural goods, we need to protect farmers and the farming way of life in Eastern Washington.

#### Tax Fairness

As working middle-class families are struggling in Eastern Washington, Congress is spending its time handing out more tax breaks to the rich and big corporations which move our American jobs overseas. As a small business owner, I know that a fair and predictable tax code is important to job creation, and we need a system

that rewards hard work and entrepreneurship, not corporate welfare and political access.

#### Medicare and Seniors

Unlike our current member of Congress who voted for the Ryan plan to end Medicare as we know it – slashing or ending benefits for millions of Americans – I will stand by Medicare, strengthen Social Security and keep our promises to Eastern Washington seniors.

#### **Primary Sources**

# October 2, 2012 -- Congressional candidate Rich Cowan visits Tri-Cities (KVEW)

A Spokane business owner running for Congress says he plans to put partisan bickering aside and bring representatives together if elected.

Democrat Rich Cowan is running for Washington's 5th district against Cathy McMorris Rodgers.

He visited the Tri-Cities today to speak with residents about issues in the Mid-Columbia.

Cowan says his top priorities are creating jobs, standing by Medicare and supporting farmers who contribute to our region's agricultural industry.

"Congress right now has an approval rating of 10%. It's broken. It's not working. And we need people in there that can bring people together and get the job done" said Cowan.

Cathy McMorris Rodgers has served as the 5th district representative in Washington since 2005.

Cowan says he's been going door to door and visiting with people across the district to gain support.

# October 2, 2012 – Rich Cowan Campaigning to Take the 5th District U.S. Congressional Seat

KENNEWICK, Wash.-- The race for the 5th District U.S. Congressional seat is on and Rich Cowan wants to unseat the longtime incumbent Cathy McMorris Rodgers.

Cowari is running as a Democrat and says he takes on many moderate stances on issues.

The biggest point he's pressing is job creation and education. He wants to work to develop more high tech job training in our state. He also believes Congress needs to get the Farm Bill passed. And he says he's against the Paul Ryan budget plan and its proposed changes to Medicare.

"Our congress is broken, absolutely broken. I'm a bipartisan kind of person. I'm a moderate. We need to come together and do what's right for people of this district and of this country and that's my value," says Rich Cowan.

The 5th Congressional District covers much of Eastern Washington, including Walla Walla. Cowan says he enjoys his visits to Walla Walla and plans to come back more often to represent that part of the district.

## August 8, 2012 - Cowan on KHQ (MORNING SHOW)

Interviewer: Talk about the overall percent of vote right now. Gathy McMorris Rodgers with 53% you with 34%. You have three months, How do you close that gap?

Cowan: Well first of all, we haven't done any advertising yet. My opponent has done quite a bit, as you can probably tell during the Olympics, and things like that. So we start an advertising program, and do a lot of door belling, and just a lot of work. But we're absolutely going to close that gap.

Interviewer: She has name recognition in the community and nationally, how do you battle that, and get your name out there to even the playing field?

Cowan: Well, we have name recognition as well. I've started this company North by Northwest 22 years ago. Brought a lot of jobs here. And that is really the #1 issue for this area, is jobs, with pension and health care.

Interviewer: What would you differently?

Cowan: Be engaged here, be a part of this Washington, not the other Washington. Represent all of us. Right now, the representation is not spread around to all of our people.

interviewer: So you feel she needs to spend more time in the community?

Cowan: I would live here. I would be part of our community, and be part of all us, and represent all of us, and really be part of our community.

Interviewer: What are you hearing going door to door? What do they want from you if you're elected?

Cowan: They want me engaged here. And they want jobs. And good family-wage jobs. That really is the key right now. I've proven that, I've done that, I have a record of doing that. The other thing is they want myself and her to be in debates. People are asking that all the time. And we would like to do ten debates, one in every county. And really go over the issues. The people deserve to hear from both candidates and really what contrasts the two of us.

Interviewer: Over the next three months, what will you be doing?

Cowan: 7 days per week, 16 hours of a day, but I'm used to that for the last 22 years at North by Northwest. It's a lot of work, but it's a lot of fun. Going around the district is great, you know listening to people. We're having a great time, actually.

### August 8, 2012 News Clip on KHQ (MORNING SHOW)

Cowan: I come from business, and I'm a job creator. And that really is the biggest thing right now is jobs. We need jobs. We need family-wage jobs. And I have that experience and background, creating these jobs.

## August 7, 2012 on KXLY (PRIMARY NIGHT)

Interviewer: You're trailing Cathy McMorris Rodgers, 54% to 35%. But you're actually thrilled with those numbers.

Cowan: Very happy. We haven't started advertising yet. My opponent, she has been up with TV for several weeks now, quite a bit of TV as well. Once we get mine up, we'll be doing well.

Interviewer: Take a moment to introduce yourself.

Well, I was the CEO of North by Northwest for 22 years, and this is about jobs. I helped create family-wage jobs, and want to take that passion for job creation to Congress.

Interviewer: How specifically do you think you could create jobs in Eastern Washington?

Cowan: Creating jobs is a team effort. We have to lower the corporate tax income rate. And really encourage job creation. Work on infrastructure and education. And those are the really big things.

Interviewer: You said you wanted 10 debates. That's ambitious. Why?

Cowan: Yes. It's important that people here in the district learn about both of us, what we stand for, what our values are — so they can have a very informed decision when they vote.

Interviewer: You've also talked about Medicare and Social Security.

Cowan: These aren't entitlements. These are benefits people have earned. We deserve to fulfill those requirements.

Interviewer: Traditionally, Eastern Washington has been a Republican dominated area. How, as a Democrat, do you think you can change that?

Cowan: Well the district has changed quite a bit. We've lost Okanogan Counties, and Adams Counties. And really it's getting a lot more even now ... Remember we had Tom Foley here for quite a while.

Interviewer: Lastly, you've said we need to work together to end the partisan bickering...

Cowan: We need to end the partisan bickering. Right now, what's going on is, people are making decisions that are best for their party. We need to make the decisions what is best for us, for our Washington, not the other Washington.

## August 7, 2012 (YouTube.com / PRIMARY NIGHT)

Question: (?) How do you feel right now?

Cowan: Oh my gosh. We are absolutely thrilled right now. She spent almost half a million dollars, and did 10 points worse than she did two years ago, where she spent no money at all. We have momentum. We're going to win this race.

Question: Why do you think you got the support you did?

Cowan: Well, you know everybody is coming together. We have so many volunteers, we have great staff. And we have great message points. I mean, you got to look at what she has done. She has basically done nothing for our district over the last 8 years. I'm a job creator; I mean, I started a company that has brought jobs here. Real jobs—not some theoretical concept. I'm advocating preservation of Medicare and Social Security; these are big issues for this district.

## July 17, 2012 -- Cowan Says This Election About Jobs (KLEW TV)

CLARKSTON, WA - Local residents and constituents gathered at a Clarkston church Saturday for a candidate forum of those running for local, state and federal offices.

The most anticipated political showdown was that of incumbent U.S. Representative Republican Cathy McMorris Rodgers and her Democratic challenger Rich Cowan. McMorris Rodgers is a four-time incumbent and Cowan was, until recently, the CEO of the Spokane-based production company, North by Northwest but stepped down when he decided to run for Congress. They're both running for Washington's Fifth Congressional District and Cowan said it's been a busy election season for him so far.

"I mean it's been incredible," said Cowan. "I've been up and down the whole district, and meeting so many great people. We have a wonderful district here, great people. This is about jobs. The average salary here is well below the national average. We've got to get that up and we've got to get more people working."

Representative McMorris Rodgers was originally scheduled to appear at the forum, however she did not attend. According to her Facebook she was in the Chewelah area attending a parade.

## July 15, 2012 - Panel Debate Rich Cowan vs. Randall Yearout (Clarkston)

Cowan (Opening Statement): The company I founded, NXNW has produced 45 feature films. Creating hundreds of sustainable, family-wage jobs, brought millions of dollars into Eastern Washington. We've created a brand new industry in this region. I love Eastern Washington. I believe in the promise of its people and the strengths of its values. But I also believe, to realize our wonderful potential, we need a representative who will fight for the interests of our region, who will be dedicated to getting something done and to actually help people, rather than just pushing some political agenda.

Today, Congress is broken. It has the lowest approval rating in history. Rather than solving problems, they are more interested in winning political points. Its focus is dedicated to protecting the interests of the other Washington, not our Washington.

We need to bring back the spirit of cooperation. We had that. That dedication to the American people that has been missing from our representation. We need to get past this partisan bickering, and start doing what's right for all of us. Your representative should be working for this Washington.

Now creating more jobs and keeping them here is my top priority. I am the only candidate with real-world business experience, and a history of actually creating jobs. I ran NXNW on the principles of good business. We stayed out of debt. We paid our workers family wages, and we put the success of the company above personal enrichment. We built for the long-term success, not short-term gain. Now these are the values our country needs right now. And those are the values I promise to bring to Congress.

Now I made a movie a few years ago called The Basket. Don't know if anyone remembers that or not. The main theme was "Together we shall fly," Today that is more true than ever. We need to come together and get down to solving our problems. Together we need to take on the issues that matter to Eastern Washington, like creating jobs, preserving Social Security and Medicare, and protecting Veterans' benefits.

Now I want to thank all of you for the opportunity to speak today. Forums like this define the choice that you have, and allow you to chose who you want to send to Congress. I thank you, and I would appreciate your vote.

Question: The EPA is absolutely out of control. It's demonstrated by their enforcement of the Clean Water Act. The outrageous and places around the country, the most recent being the Sacket Case in Northern Idaho, in which the Supreme Court voted 9-0 to not let the government take these people's place. (What would you do to rein it in?)

Cowan: We have a balance between the two. We do have one shot at this planet. Our infrastructure, our god-given infrastructure. So we need to do what we can to protect it. However, I agree with you that often times bureaucrats do go a little to far, and they don't always come up with common-sense solutions to our every day problems. Because they don't live here. And so, I agree that we need to have a sensible approach. But we do still need to have the fundamental value of preserving our god-given infrastructure. And I think you would agree with that Sir.

Question: If you have the opportunity, are you going to vote to repeal ObamaCare?

Cowan: No. I believe in the Affordable Care Act. There are many provisions of that Act that are provisions we all agree with. For example, preexisting conditions go away. Women will no longer have to pay more than men for health care. We can have our young people up to the age of 26 on our health care plans. Those are good things that most of us agree on, for the most part. So I do agree with the Affordable Health Care Act, and what we can do. I do believe we can make it

better. It's not a perfect law. In fact, there's a lot of things I don't like about it either. But to just throw it completely away, and get rid of all the great things that are in it, to me — it just doesn't make sense.

Question: The Supreme Court just said ObamaCare was constitutional. So is it or is it not constitutional?

Cowan: You know, I come from business, that's my background. I'm always looking for solutions that save money. And also what's right for people. Right for people and save money. With health care, we have get to come up with a plan that saves us money and covers all of us. This is a win, win. Talk about picking my pocket. This is where I'm confused, because if you don't have medical insurance, and you go to an ER or some medical facility, let's say you're in a car wreck, and you go to these facilities. ...

You are sort of picking the pocket of me the taxpayer, or someone who is buying medical insurance. So you can't really look at it as buying a television or something like that, this is medical care, we need to be efficient with it. We also need to have access for everybody. And this is the only way we can go ... do it. I'm all for saving money. And I want to save money for you, Sir, and for me. And I don't want to pick your pocket, or have you pick my pocket. So let's come up with a plan that works for all of us.

Question: Should Congress be able to pass legislation that does not pertain to them, in other words that pertains to all American citizens, but not to Congress.

Cowan: I believe Members of Congress should have the same medical plan we all have. And not special privileges, like their own barber shop. Their own parking place at the airport. Franking mail, and things like that. I'm actually going to be part of a caucus called "Fix Congress Now." And what that means is if we don't pass a budget, a real budget by October 1 of every year, Members don't get paid. Period.

## June 28, 2012 Rich Cowan's Statement on Supreme Court Decision

(Spokane, WA) June 28, 2012 - Congressional Candidate Rich Cowan's (D, WA-5) statement on the United States Supreme Court decision on the Affordable Care Act:

"The Supreme Court did the right thing for our health care today.

In upholding the Affordable Care Act, the decision protects the 180,000 residents of Eastern Washington and the rest of the nation struggling to get insurance, and restores the competitiveness of American business on a global scale.

As a business owner I have experienced first hand how important basic, affordable health care is to employees. And for those who are not working, their lack of medical care is frightening and can be life threatening.

The most vulnerable will no longer be excluded because of pre-existing conditions. Young adults up to age 26 will be able to remain on their parents' insurance. We will have more choices, families and small business will save money, children and seniors will have preventive care with no more co-pays. Most importantly, people can still keep their private insurance and their doctor.

This is a victory for "our Washington." There are parts of this law that can be improved, like cost containment and access issues, but it is time to put aside the partisan bickering and put America back to work."

## June 21, 2012 – League of Women Voters Forum (Military Spending)

Question: HASC Approved \$8 Billion over what the Administration asked for, including House Members favored programs.

Cowan: Right now we need to keep an eye on all costs, particularly in the military budget. We need to have a great military. We need to have an effective military. A military that is very surgical.

But we should also depend on what the military themselves have recommended for their programs, and not get involved in situations where Members, in their own individual districts, are pushing for programs to benefit people in their own district. It's not right, and it's not what we should be encouraging at all. [Emphasis Added]

Cowan (Follow Up): It's somewhat related. One thing that I'm very concerned about is what I would call the privatization of our military adventures, let's put it that way. Where there are a lot of companies benefiting and profiting greatly from us going overseas. And you know this is expensive. Each of these wars has been over \$1 trillion. We're going to be paying for these wars for the next 50 or 60 years. These kids coming home needing care and long term care, it's something we need to remember all the time.

## June 21, 2012 - League of Women Voters Forum (Federal Farm Subsidies)

Question: Do you see a need to reform farm subsidy programs?

Cowan: Yes. We need to maintain a basic safety net for our agricultural people who own farms, and who work in agriculture. Remember it's a \$2 billion industry in our district alone. And there are two major variables that are out of their control. They can't control weather. They can't control the prices at what they can sell their goods. It has to do with currency rates throughout the world. It has to do with what other countries are producing.

Cowan: I would agree with the insurance variable. That is probably the major piece of this. But we should also have a basic price support as well. When a farmer is out there working, they don't control these variables, including the cost of diesel, which is a major component, fertilizer, things like that. We just want to make sure it's a common-sense program that has a basic safety net for farmers.

### June 21, 2012 - League of Women Voters Forum (Bipartisanship)

Question: If you are elected, in what policy areas could you compromise with the opposing political party.

Cowan: Well lots of things actually. That's one of the reasons I'm running actually, is to the spirit of cooperation, the spirit of compromise. That's how it was when Tom Foley was our Member for example. I did a documentary about him back in the 80s. He got along with everybody. It was a very collegial atmosphere. So the first thing is let's get rid of partisan bickering, let's get together, and work in the best interest of the country. That's the value, what's best for the country—not what's best for my party, what's best for the country. And that'll help a lot right there.

## June 21, 2012 - League of Women Voters Forum (Social Security)

Question: It is estimated that the SS would become exhausted between 2036 and 2041. What would you do to remedy this situation if elected?

Cowan: First of all, it's important to remember that the Social Security fund is not going to be completely exhausted. Worst-case scenario it is still 75% funded, even at the end of period you're talking about. So it's not exactly at that dire of a situation. It's very easy to make a few corrections. We have time. We have lots of time to make that. One of the things to do would be to raise the limit where you are actually subject to Social Security withholdings. That would pretty much take

care of that issue quite a bit. It's really important to remember it's not as dire as people think. There's a lot of messaging going on, particularly on other people.

Cowan: Let's remember that it's one of the best programs government has ever invented. It serves so many people. It's critical. We would do everything to preserve it. It's not as dire as it's been messaged.

## June 21, 2012 - League of Women Voters Forum (Jobs, Economy, Deficit)

Question: Be specific. What do you think is the most pressing problem, or a second problem, that must be addressed in the next Congress? And what would you do about it.

Cowan: Jobs. Jobs. We need family-wage jobs now. We need to have infrastructure falling apart. We need to get people working. And that really is the major component of that. And when you're talking about jobs, you're talking about education. I'm a long-term thinker. I like to think long-term. And we need to design education systems that are approaching long-term solutions. And so there's a component between jobs and education. We've got to be looking out for the future. And that's the most important thing now. We've got to start now.

Question: What could the government do to stimulate the government?

Cowan: I can give you two very specific things we need to do now. First of all, right now we give tax breaks to companies that export jobs. That has to stop. The second thing we need to do is encourage domestic companies to have domestic workers. I would recommend lowering the corporate tax rate by half to corporations that hire only domestic workers. It's almost a flip, right now we incentivize companies to export workers, we need to incentivize companies to have workers here in this country.

## June 21, 2012 - League of Women Voters Forum (Wall Street)

Question: Do we need more regulation of U.S. Banks to control speculation?

Cowan: Yes, there is a balance, I agree with that. I want to separate what we have our local banks here doing a great job. And what I would call Wall Street Banks, that basically engage in what I would consider gambling practices, almost like a casino if you will. Banks are supposed to be banks. They are supposed to look out for the best interests of the people that utilize their services. We need to

have a very good balance between protecting the consumer, we also have to look after the shareholders of the banks as well, but the balance needs to be more towards the consumer as well.

## June 11, 2012 - "Her path - Survival of the Richest." (YouTube Video)

Cowan: She is in leadership in the most dysfunctional Congress in history. She has forgotten who she works for. She works for the wrong Washington. The Washington that can have party leaders tell her what to do. She advocates for an economic system that is "survival of the richest." A system that is tragically unjust and unfair. A system of tax cuts for offshore corporations and multimillionaires. A system that leaves behind the middle class. You know what, it doesn't work. It's not sustainable. We are better than that. We are better than that! You know, we don't have a shortage of intelligence or resources to solve our problems. We have a shortage of leadership, and that's why my opponent needs to go.

## June 11, 2012 - "Dollars Don't Buy Elections." (YouTube Video)

Cowan: This is still America, Land of the free. Let's show Congress and my opponent that dollars don't buy elections. Our votes dol

## June 11, 2012 - "My path - Hope and Opportunity." (YouTube Video)

Cowan: This is a huge year for us. It really is. The choices we need to make are very clear cut. The choices will affect us for many years to come. We can go down two paths. One path or the other. A path that serves the elite, the 1%, Wall Street, Big Oil, special interest groups that only look after themselves. Or we can go down a path that provides hope and opportunity. A path that brings forth creative, collaborative, and innovative ideas to provide family wage jobs — FAMILY WAGE JOBS! A path that respects and honors our differences, by absolutely ensuring civil rights, equal pay, reproductive rights, and marriage equality. Now that's my path, and those are my values. Are you with me?

## June 6, 2012 -- "Nominations and Fair Pay." (YouTube Video)

I have some exciting news to report from last weekend's Democratic State Convention. I am honored to accept the official nomination for the 5th Congressional District. The convention has me more energized than ever. With the primary just around the corner, this is an important time in the campaign. Your help in getting the message out is critical. It's time for a new voice in Washington!

While I've been hard at work in every one of our 10 counties, my opponent has been pushing the national Republican agenda. [Emphasis Added]

She was elected to serve and protect all of us in Eastern Washington, but she continues to wage the Republican War on Women. She has appeared on the TV talk circuit, dismissing the attacks on the rights of our wives, mothers, and daughters as a "myth" and a "side issue." Yet she and her Republican Congress voted against the Paycheck Fairness Act. [Emphasis Added]

I would have voted for it. Women make less than men for the same work - 23% less. My opponent denies this gap even exists. Why would our member of Congress not pay women what they earn? Eastern Washington workers already make less than most other parts of the country, making this type of discrimination even more costly to families in our District.

This bill has now stalled in the House, once again because of the ridiculous and inexcusable party politics of the Republican leadership. My opponent's loyalty to her party shows how out of touch she is. Help me defend fair pay. Help me close the discrimination gap. Help me replace Cathy McMorris Rodgers.

### May 11, 2012 - "A Change in Congress" (YouTube Video)

I wanted to report to you how well the campaign is going. We had a tremendous series of successful kickoffs last month. The support for a change in Congress is amazing. But I need to share with you something that deeply disturbs me and will probably disturb you.

The folks who work for the "Other Washington" are at it again, including our current Congressional Representative, who thinks the best way to save Medicare is to gut Medicare. You may have recently received a letter from Cathy McMorris Rodgers. It was sent to folks in our district on official U.S. House of Representatives stationary that was prepared, published and mailed at your expense - taxpayer expense. Her topic was Medicare. She spent your money — thousands of dollars — to convince you that she is fighting to protect the governmental program.

The threats to Medicare are very real, but make no mistake: McMorris Rodgers just voted for a budget plan that would end Medicare as we know it and raise health care costs for seniors. She is attempting to scare senior citizens, claiming she will save the day and stop these cutbacks before they occur. Her message is deceitful and lacks integrity. [Emphasis Added]

McMorris Rodgers is wasting our tax dollars sending election-year correspondence that is clearly misleading at best and untruthful at its worst.

Sadly, many will read her "official" letter and believe her words. I appreciate you taking the time to read this and not allow our current Congressional member to manipulate through fear on your dime. When I am in Congress I will not use your hard-earned money for political posturing.

## April 19, 2012 - Rich Cowan Visits the Lewis-Clark Valley (KLEW TV)

CLARKSTON, WA - Spokane business owner and Democrat Rich Cowan is running for Washington's Fifth Congressional District against incumbent Cathy McMorris-Rodgers.

Cowan said it's time for him to serve and give back by growing small businesses, investing in health care and aerospace sector growth, while maintaining existing companies' well-being. He said he's prepared to take his passion for job creation and his commitment to middle class families to the nation's capital.

"We need family waged jobs, we need jobs wit paid benefits and I've had a history of creating jobs in Spokane and a whole new industry up there," said Cowan, "I will use that same passion and dedication, energy and commitment in congress."

Cowan is the CEO of North by Northwest Productions and has created more than 45 feature films. North by Northwest Productions is a film and video production company that has brought in millions of dollars spent on location in Eastern Washington.

Cowan is a Spokane native and attended Washington State University.

# March 19, 2012 - Spokane Business Owner, Father and WSU Grad Rich Cowan Confirms Run for Congress (Press Release)

(Spokane, WA) March 19, 2012- North by Northwest Productions CEO Rich Cowan confirms he is running for Congress in Eastern Washington's 5th District. Cowan, age 56, who with his partners, helped build the highly successful media firm headquartered in Spokane from a dream to a 40-employee operation, says he is prepared to take his passion for job creation and commitment to middle class families to the nation's capital. Cowan's official campaign kickoff is planned for April around the District.

"We need to have stronger voice for workers, small business owners, farmers and families in Washington DC," says Cowan, a father of two Spokane public school graduates. "I have spent more than two decades building my business and creating jobs, but Congress only pays lip service to local job creation, favoring Wall Street over the needs of Main Street entrepreneurs,"

says Cowan. The candidate pledges to bring Eastern Washington values and a positive economic vision to Congress.

"I was raised in a hardworking family, graduated from WSU, and stayed local to build a business here. I have experience with public service and the private sector, but most importantly, I've created jobs," says Cowan. Cowan believes it is vital to Eastern Washington's success to bring new, well-paying jobs into the District by growing small businesses, investing in health care and aerospace sector growth, while maintaining existing companies' well-being.

"It's important to me that our elected representatives are actively engaged in what's in the best interests of the citizens of this district—not a political party," Cowan says, referencing his opponent, Cathy McMorris Rodgers, who has quickly aligned herself with Speaker John Boehner (R-Ohio) and other hard-line Republican Congressional leaders. "I look forward to connecting with workers, families, businesses small and large and anyone who is interested in changing the way Congress does business. We can elect someone to play politics in DC as part of a deeply divisive, partisan leadership or we can elect leaders whose only priority is the people here in Eastern Washington," Cowan says.

Cowan, who has stepped down as CEO to run for Congress full time, says he plans an aggressive; grass roots campaign and will visit neighbors and communities across the 5th District, stretching from the Canadian border to Oregon. "I look forward to hearing the hopes, frustrations and priorities of voters throughout the district," says Cowan, "I was born here and have lived here most of my life, and I look forward to serving people in a new capacity to help build a brighter future for all of us."

## KHQ Candidate Profile: Rich Cowan (D)

Political Party: Democratic

Education: Bachelor of Arts and Master of Science degrees from WSU

Family: 2 children, Kristin and Casey

Religion: Lutheran

Place and Date of Birth: Spokane, Feb. 7, 1956

Background: 22 years as CEO of the film and video production company North by Northwest, former fire fighter and EMT, KHQ-TV Community Affairs Director

Priorities:

## Change for our Washington:

This is a "change" election that will set our course for the next 50 years. Will we choose to create jobs by investing in infrastructure and education? Will we preserve Social Security and Medicare and keep the promises we made to seniors, protecting their contributions when they need it most? Will we honor our daughters', wives' and mothers' rights as women in our country?

Or will we continue the partisan bickering that lets entrenched incumbents, like my opponent Cathy McMorris Rodgers, push our problems down the road?

#### Jobs:

I am the former CEO of North by Northwest Productions, which brought a new kind of business to Spokane along with hundreds of family wage jobs. On my first day in Congress I will know exactly what small businesses need to succeed in Eastern Washington and across the country. My top priority is creating jobs and taking care of Eastern Washington, not the "other Washington." My opponent has had eight years on the job and has only passed two of her bills.

#### **Protecting Medicare:**

McMorris Rodgers voted for the Republican Ryan budget plan, which ends Medicare as we know it. It eliminates benefits and forces seniors to pay \$6,400 more per year. I want to preserve Medicare and Social Security and keep risky Republican privatization schemes from ruining these programs for everyone.

#### Womens' Rights:

I am a proud father and I cannot imagine doing anything to hurt or hold back either of my children. As a Congressman, that would not change. My daughter should have the same rights as my son. My opponent wants to eliminate protections for the women in our lives, by slashing funding for women's health care and refusing to establish fair pay practices.

#### Veterans and Military:

Finally, we need to protect Fairchild Air Force base in our region. It supports jobs in the district and is a home base for the many veterans who retire to Eastern Washington. We need to make sure that every soldier is honored for his or her service by ensuring that they are supported after they come home.

## 10 Questions (10/4/12):

- X) Congresswoman, this is the 44th straight month the national unemployment rate has been above 8%, the longest streak since the Great Depression. Here in Spokane, it's above 9%. What are some specific things you are doing as a Member of Congress to create jobs?
- X) Congresswoman, you voted against the Affordable Care Act which would extend health insurance to over 30 million Americans. Why did you vote against this bill, and what type of health care reform do you support?
- X) Congresswoman, last month, the House went out of session without passing a new farm bill, meaning that our nation's farmers are currently operating without a farm bill. Why did that happen, and what kind of farm bill do you expect Congress to pass?
- X) Congresswoman, last week, you were at the ribbon-cutting for the newest section of the North South Freeway, but yet, the funding for the Freeway came from the President's stimulus bill, which you voted against. Do you regret your vote against the stimulus?
- X) Congresswoman, you voted for the Budget Control Act which cuts about \$1 trillion in military spending over the next decade. There is some concern that these military cuts will hurt Fairchild Air Force Base, the largest employer in Eastern Washington. What are you doing to reverse these cuts?
- X) Congresswoman, you support tax cuts for the wealthy, at a time when middle-class and working-class Americans are suffering economically. Do you really think we should cut taxes on the wealthy, even if it means less money for vital government programs?
- X) Congresswoman, by most metrics, this is the most polarized, partisan Congress in modern American history, and you serve as a Leadership member in this Congress. What are some of the things you are doing to make Congress more bipartisan and work more effectively?
- X) Congresswoman, earlier this year, you became the Republican Party's point person in rebutting claims that your party is waging a "War on Women." On issues ranging from contraception to equal pay to even basic

protections against sexual violence, your party has been accused of undermining women's rights. Do you think your party has an image problem with women, and if so, how are you trying to improve that image?

- X) Congresswoman, you talk a lot about cutting government spending, but we haven't heard a lot of specifics. What are 3 specific government programs you would cut?
- X) Congresswoman, your opponent is running TV ads asking the question, "Where is Cathy?" Mr. Cowan points out that you're spending most of October traveling the country for Gov. Romney, instead of being here in Eastern Washington. How do you respond?

# **EXHIBIT 2**

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## Winer, Todd

Subject: Location:

Debate Prep w/ Brett O'Donnell (via phone call) 2421 RHOB

Start: End:

Fri 10/5/2012 2:00 PM Fri 10/5/2012 3:30 PM

Recurrence:

(none)

Organizer:

McMorris Rodgers, Cathy

Categories:

Preparation Time

IQACCOUNT:



CALL-IN NUMBER: 877-680-

LEADER PASSCODE:

NON-LEADER PASSCODE:

Brett:

Stan:

# **EXHIBIT 3**

## Re: CMR Q and A

From: Todd Winer (@hotmail.com)

Sent: Fri 10/05/12 6:02 PM

To: Brett @odacommunications.com); @aol.com (@aol.com)

Cool. Thanks. On Sunday, we will be in CMR's office (2421 Rayburn) at 330 pm.

Sent via BlackBerry by AT&T

----Original Message---From: Brett ODonnell < Odacommunications.com>

Date: Fri, 5 Oct 2012 05:02:50

To: < @aol.com>; < @aol.com>

Subject: CMR Q and A

Here you go. See you Sunday. Where will prep be?

Brett

# **EXHIBIT 4**

Subject to the Nondisclosure Provisions of H. Res. 895 of the 110th Congress as Amended

# OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL ETHICS UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

## **MEMORANDUM OF INTERVIEW**

IN RE: Representative Cathy McMorris Rodgers

**REVIEW NO.:** 13-0906

DATE: November 8, 2013 LOCATION: 2001 K Street, NW

Washington, DC 20036

TIME: 4:40 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. (approximately)

PARTICIPANTS: Kedric L. Payne

Bryson B. Morgan

Elliot Berke

<u>SUMMARY</u>: The OCE requested an interview with the witness and she consented to an interview. The witness made the following statements in response to our questioning:

- 1. The witness was given an 18 U.S.C. § 1001 warning and consented to an interview. She signed a written acknowledgement of the warning, which will be placed in the case file in this review.
- 2. The witness stated that her congressional office policy concerning staff performing campaign work is made clear in writing. Congressional staff are not to do campaign work on official time or with official resources. Any campaign work must be done on the staffer's own time, which means after hours or on the weekend. The office has flexibility with hours. For example, a staffer may take an extended lunch break and work later in the evening to make up hours. Campaign work must be done outside of the office and without congressional equipment.
- 3. The office policy for staffers performing campaign work has existed since she first came into Congress, and every staffer reviews and signs a certification agreeing to the policy.
- 4. The witness stated that her congressional staff assisted her with preparing for debates in 2012. Todd Winer, Riva Litman, and Jeremy Deutsch assisted her. She recalled that Shaughnessy Murphy may have also assisted while he was in the district.
- 5. Specifically, the staffers assisted her with preparing for issues and legislation relevant to the debates. They asked her mock questions and discussed answers. The witness stated that debate preparation sessions were held in her home in her district in Washington.

Subject to the Nondisclosure Provisions of H. Res. 895 of the 110th Congress as Amended

- 6. She recalled that one debate preparation session was held in her office in the Rayburn House Office Building. The session was held there because it was a Sunday afternoon and she knew that her home was going to be noisy with her children. Other issues were discussed during the debate preparation session other than the debate, so the witness stated that they went ahead and stayed at the office for the debate preparation.
- 7. The witness was shown a calendar entry for Friday, October 5, 2012, stating "Debate Prep w/ Brett O'Donnell (via phone call) 2421 RHOB." She said that she did not recall a preparation session on a Friday afternoon and the calendar entry may have been mislabeled. The witness stated that her scheduler, Amy Hariss, makes calendar entries.
- 8. When asked why she had her staff assist her with debate preparation, the witness said that her staff have the "legislative history" and know the votes that she has taken. The staff also provided her with general strategy tips for the debate and for her frame of mind, including how to approach the debate. The witness stated that the staff does not do opposition research.
- 9. The staff also assisted her with preparing for debates in 2010. The staff who assisted with debate preparation in 2010 were Mr. Winer and Mr. Deutsch. She believes that Ms. Litman most likely assisted, as well, but she doubts that Mr. Murphy assisted. She stated that they assisted her in 2010 in the same manner that they assisted in 2012.
- 10. She said the debate preparation sessions were held in her district, but no sessionwas ever held in her congressional office in Spokane.
- 11. Staff assisted the witness with drafting campaign speeches in 2012. Mr. Winer, Ms. Litman, and Mr. Deutsch were the staffers who assisted her.
- 12. When asked to list the paid staff for her congressional campaign in 2012, the witness said that Jessica Dewitt worked for the campaign. The witness was unsure whether Ms. Dewitt was the Campaign Director or the Campaign Manager. She doubted that Ms. Dewitt was the Campaign Manager because she was new to the campaign and did not have extensive experience. The witness said that Ms. Dewitt was the point person who handled calls and was the main person on the campaign.
- 13. The witness stated that Ian Field worked for the campaign and that Kevin Parker served as honorary chair of the campaign. Don Peters was the Treasurer of the campaign and Dawn Sugasa handled finance as the Finance Director. Stan Shore was responsible for the mailings for the campaign as a campaign contractor.
- 14. When asked who served as her contact for the campaign, the witness said Ms. Dewitt and Ms. Sugasa.

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- 15. When asked who on the campaign drafted campaign speeches, the witness stated that it was largely Jeremy Deutsch, Todd Winer, and Stan Shore.
- 16. The general drafting process for the witness' campaign speeches began with Mr. Winer taking the lead on the draft. She would then sit down and talk about the speech with him and discuss anything that should be included. She would review the draft and work on finalizing it. She is not sure if she always had a conversation with Mr. Deutsch about the speeches.
- 17. She typically provided her comments and edits on a hard copy of the draft. These hard copies of the speeches were usually compiled in a binder of various items that her staff provided to her before she left the office for the day. The staff also delivered the binder to her home if she had already left for the day.
- 18. She said the conversations with Mr. Winer about the campaign speeches sometimes occurred in the congressional office. The conversations also occurred at the National Republican Congressional Committee office, or, as the witness stated, "wherever we might be."
- 19. When asked why she had congressional staff assist her with campaign speeches, she said that the staff knows her and knows what she has been doing. She described it as something they want to do to be helpful on their own time outside of the office.
- 20. She said that congressional staff assisted her with writing speeches in 2011 and 2010.
- 21. When asked whether she ever had congressional staff assist her with writing letters to the editors of newspapers for her campaign, the witness initially said she did not recall having staff assist her.
- 22. The witness was shown an email to her from Mr. Winer, dated October 20, 2010 (TW\_0558). She told the OCE that she views the Communications Director's role to include writing letters to editors throughout the year. She encourages staff to write letters to editors that are not related to campaign activity.
- 23. She said that she consistently asked Mr. Winer throughout the year to have a strategy for letters to the editor. She is certain that she spoke to Mr. Winer about writing letters to editors because the letters were necessary to counter other letters to editors. These letters were sometimes related to her congressional duties and other times related to her campaign. The witness believes that she likely talked to Mr. Winer about potential people who could sign the letters to editors.
- 24. She said that she recognized that the letters to editors referenced in the email are in response to campaign issues. When asked whether the letters were written during official

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hours, the witness said that she would have hoped that the letters were done outside of work. She told the OCE that the fact that Mr. Winer sent her emails concerning the letters during the day did not make her think that the work was done during business hours. She stated that she thought the time on the emails only reflected the time that the emails were sent and not the time that the letters were drafted.

- 25. The witness was shown an email from T. Winer to J. Deutsch, dated June 18, 2012 (TW\_0382). She stated that she does not believe that she ever directed or suggested that interns in her office write letters to editors for her campaign.
- 26. The witness told the OCE that members of her congressional staff attended "Top of the Morning" events with her in her congressional district in April 2012. She told the OCE that she cannot recall the name of all the staff who attended, but the staffers were from her district offices and Washington, D.C. office. She said the staffers volunteered to attend the events on their own time.
- 27. She stated that the primary reason for her travel to the district in April 2012 was for the two week Easter break that was a district work period, and one of the top district work periods of the year. When asked if the campaign kickoff events held in April 2012 in the district were the "primary" purpose of her travel to the district, the witness stated "no," they were not the primary purpose of her travel.
- 28. Staffers from her district offices and Washington, DC office also attended a "Pink Flamingo" event with her in August 2012 as volunteers. She told the OCE that staffers are not required to attend the event, but she has found that staffers feel shunned if they are excluded from attending such events.
- 29. On the same day in August 2012 as the Pink Flamingo event, a luncheon was held with the Ponderosa Republican Women organization. She recalled that only a few congressional staffers attended this event with her. Jessica DeWitt and Ian Field attended, but she is not certain whether Mr. Winer attended.
- 30. The witness said that her primary reason for visiting the district in August is because it is recess and it is when she spends significant time in the district.
- 31. The witness told the OCE that Top of the Morning, Pink Flamingo, and the lunch with the Ponderosa Republican Women organization were annual events and that her staff attended them with her in 2011 and 2010 similar to 2012. One year the Top of the Morning events did not happen, but the witness is not certain whether this was before or after 2010.

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- 32. She recalled attending an interview in October 2012 at the Spokesman Review with Mr. Winer. She believes that Mr. Murphy may have also attended. Mr. Winer attended to assist her with a series of issue related questions that were asked during the interview. The witness does not remember asking Mr. Winer to attend the meeting and she said that her staff decides among themselves who will volunteer to assist her.
- 33. Congressional staff attended the Republican National Convention in 2012 with the witness. The witness stated that the staffers volunteered and attended on their own time and at the expense of the campaign. She said that it was an issue because many staffers wanted to attend and they could not all attend due to the cost for the campaign.
- 34. She recalled that Mr. Deutsch, Mr. Winer, Ms. Litman, Patrick Bell, Ms. Sugasa, and Brett O'Donnell attended the convention. Ms. Litman attended as a volunteer with a Republican delegation and Mr. O'Donnell attended to assist multiple people in addition to helping the witness with preparation for speaking and media interviews.
- 35. The witness' congressional staffers attended to help with logistics related to her role as a hostess of the convention. She had speeches every night of the Convention and the staff assisted her with preparing for the speeches and media interviews.
- 36. When asked how she knew whether the staffers attended the convention on their own time, the witness said that the campaign paid for their hotel and travel expenses. She said that she understood they took time off from work and she hopes that they took time off. She said that she is not involved in leave forms that staffers submit.
- 37. The witness told the OCE that her congressional staff assisted with the packet and video for her race for Republican Conference Chair in 2012. The witness specifically stated that the packet and video were a "combined effort" of her campaign staff and congressional staff. Mr. Bell was the point person for the congressional office and Mr. Shore was the point person for the campaign. Mr. Deutsch also was involved in the effort. She reviewed drafts and made recommendations and edits. She was responsible for final approval.
- 38. In December 2012, Mr. O'Donnell assisted her with preparing for various media appearances. The witness stated that Mr. Winer and Ms. Litman also assisted with the preparation. Preparation sessions occurred sometimes in her congressional office and on other occasions in the studio or hallway.
- 39. Mr. O'Donnell assisted her with thinking through the questions, knowing the points that she wanted to make, and providing background on interviewers and the questions that they might ask.

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- 40. When asked whether the media preparation sessions were campaign or official-related, the witness said the preparation sessions were both because a reporter does not distinguish between the campaign and non-campaign issues. She stated that the decision was made when Mr. O'Donnell was initially hired that the majority of his work would be "on the political side" and she was aware that he was paid by the campaign, but ultimately his work was assisting with both campaign and official interviews. The witness stated that they paid Mr. O'Donnell out of the campaign so there would be no question about using tax dollars to do campaign work.
- 41. The witness knew that Mr. Shore was employed with the House Republican Conference. She said that he is no longer with the Conference because it was always known that he was helping with the transition of the office on a temporary basis and he did not want to live in Washington, DC. Mr. Deutsch was his supervisor when he was employed with the Conference.
- 42. She told the OCE that she was not aware of him ending employment with the Conference because of the OCE investigation or press inquiries concerning his employment.
- 43. The most recent communication that she had with Mr. Shore was during the government shutdown in October 2013, when she saw him in the Conference office. She said that the nature of the conversation was "just catching up and talking about the shutdown."
- 44. She is not aware that Mr. Shore continues to assist the Conference and has not seen him involved in anything. She is not aware of him volunteering to assist the Conference.
- 45. The witness told the OCE that Mr. Winer was a great fit and a great writer when he was hired. The office needed a writer and he was a good Communications Director. He had strengths and weaknesses like everyone and as the office grew he struggled with management.
- 46. Following the race for Republican Conference Chair, Mr. Winer was under the impression that he should be the Communications Director for the Conference. Mr. Winer was told that he would not receive the position and Mr. Winer said that he wanted to look for other positions.
- 47. Mr. Winer returned a few weeks later around December 2012 or January 2013 wanting to keep his job in her personal office but the witness did not have confidence that he could do that job. She did not have confidence that he could do the job anymore because he had been unwilling to do the job as instructed and wanted to have more of a political role.
- 48. Prior to him being told that he was not going to be Communications Director of the Republican Conference, she had multiple meetings with Mr. Winer because she found

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that it was getting harder for her to have him do what she needed to be done. The witness stated that Mr. Winer "missed some opportunities." For example, he did not do any work to arrange media interviews when the witness was one of the few Members of Congress to attend the Supreme Court decision concerning the Affordable Care Act.

- 49. She said that in December 2011, Mr. Winer began promoting her politically in a manner in which she disapproved, had some unrealistic goals for her, and wanted to do more on the political side than she was comfortable allowing him to do. For example, the witness stated that she had reason to believe that Mr. Winer was the source of certain rumors that the witness was a potential vice presidential candidate. The witness stated that she spoke with him about it and ultimately he became disappointed and disengaged. The witness also stated that Mr. Winer "deflated" when it became clear that she would not be a vice presidential candidate. Mr. Winer was never excited about her leadership race and he became unhappy, so Mr. Deutsch took over the media aspects of the leadership race, which made Mr. Winer mad. The witness stated that she was aware that he "lost his temper" with the staff during this period.
- 50. The witness was shown an email from Mr. Winer to her, dated January 10, 2013 (TW\_0123-0124). She recalled the email and said that she responded to the email in a face-to-face meeting with Mr. Winer. At the point when he wrote the email, he had returned after being unable to find another job and requested another six months on the payroll. He had been on the payroll since the time that he was told he could look for another job, but that was scheduled to end in January 2013.
- 51. When asked whether Mr. Winer's tardiness to a debate preparation session was part of the reason why he was no longer employed, the witness said no. She also said that she did not discuss with him the email's reference to the debate preparation session where he was late.
- 52. The witness said that Mr. Winer never mentioned to her that he was uncomfortable doing campaign work. She said that he wanted to be more involved in campaign work, especially during the leadership race. He was not on message with the media in the beginning of the leadership race and Mr. Deutsch assumed the role of point person with the media.

This memorandum was prepared on November 14, 2013, based on the notes that the OCE staff prepared during the interview with the witness on November 8, 2013. I certify that this memorandum contains all pertinent matters discussed with the witness on November 8, 2013.

Kedric L. Payne Deputy Chief Counsel

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# **EXHIBIT 5**

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# OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL ETHICS UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

## MEMORANDUM OF INTERVIEW

IN RE:

Representative McMorris Rodgers' Chief of Staff

REVIEW NO .:

13-0906

DATE:

November 8, 2013 2001 K Street, NW

LOCATION:

Washington, DC 20006

TIME:

2:10 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. (approximately)

PARTICIPANTS:

Kedric L. Payne

Bryson B. Morgan

Elliot Berke

<u>SUMMARY</u>: The OCE requested an interview with the witness and he consented to an interview. The witness made the following statements in response to our questioning:

- 1. The witness was given an 18 U.S.C. § 1001 warning and consented to an interview. The witness signed a written acknowledgement of the 18 U.S.C. § 1001 warning, which will be placed in the case file in this review.
- 2. The witness first met Representative McMorris Rodgers in or about April 2003 in Olympia, Washington for a job interview. At the time, Representative McMorris Rodgers was a state representative in Washington and the witness was living and working in Ohio. The witness moved to Washington in or about May 2003 to begin working for then state representative McMorris Rodgers as a political director for "HROC"—the House Republican Organizing Committee.
- 3. The witness stated that although Representative McMorris Rodgers asked him to manage her 2004 campaign for the United States House of Representatives, he was not employed by Representative McMorris Rodgers' 2004 campaign, although he volunteered for the campaign.
- 4. In 2006, the witness stated that he was paid by Representative McMorris Rodgers' campaign committee, and also volunteered for the campaign. The witness could not recall precisely what his title with the campaign was, but recalled that at the time he was working for a hotel in New Jersey and noticed that Representative McMorris Rodgers was being outraised by her opponent, so he volunteered for the campaign and ended up working for the campaign for about six weeks.

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- 5. The witness stated that beginning in 2005 he was employed by Moore Information for about one year as a senior project manager. His duties involved conducting public opinion research. During his time at Moore Information, the witness stated that he did not do any work for Representative McMorris Rodgers as a client of Moore Information. The witness stated that to the best of his recollection, Representative McMorris Rodgers was not a client of Moore Information during the time he worked there.
- 6. The witness stated that he worked for Representative McMorris Rodgers "on and off" until December 15, 2008 when he became the Chief of Staff of Representative McMorris Rodgers' congressional office.
- 7. The witness stated that his duties as Representative McMorris Rodgers' Chief of Staff include running the day-to-day operations of the congressional office, managing human resources issues, and advising Representative McMorris Rodgers on public policy issues. All other staff in Representative McMorris Rodgers' congressional and district offices ultimately report to the witness.
- 8. The witness reports to Representative McMorris Rodgers, and communicates with her on a "very regular" basis, which is at least daily when Representative McMorris Rodgers is in Washington, DC. The witness's contact with Representative McMorris Rodgers is primarily in-person when she is in Washington, DC and over the phone when she is in her district.
- 9. The witness stated the he works, and sometimes volunteers, for Representative McMorris Rodgers' leadership PAC, CMR PAC. The witness advises CMR PAC on contribution and disbursement decisions, and, along with Representative McMorris Rodgers, is responsible for making decisions regarding contributions to other candidates and other types of disbursements. The witness stated that there is no executive director of the PAC, and that he and Representative McMorris Rodgers are principally responsible for the operations of CMR PAC. Other persons also provide services to the PAC. Specifically, Concentric provides treasurer and compliance services to the PAC; Joe Rachinsky acts as a fundraiser and provides compliance advice to the PAC; Dawn Sugasa assists the PAC with fundraising; Brett O'Donnell provides the PAC with media consulting services, such as consulting Representative McMorris Rodgers regarding television appearances and raising her media profile; Stan Shore assists the PAC with creative ideas for fundraising and the PAC's web presence; and Mildred Webber provides the PAC with political advice regarding which candidates to support.
- 10. The witness was paid for these services by CMR PAC in 2012 and in 2011, but has not yet been paid by CMR PAC for his services in 2013. The services he provided in the past and for which he was paid are the same as the services he currently provides to the PAC.

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- 11. The witness was asked who the current employees of Representative McMorris Rodgers' campaign are, and responded that Ian Field is the campaign manager; Dawn Sugasa is a fundraiser; Dan Peters is the treasurer and compliance officer; Stan Shore is a general consultant; and Joe Rachinsky is a fundraiser. The witness also stated that the campaign hires "an extra set of hands" on occasion to assist with events, such as the "Pink Flamingo" event, which is a major grassroots event the campaign holds in August. Specifically with regard to communications, the witness stated that the campaign has not needed much communications assistance in 2013 because it is an off-election year, but Ian Field updates the campaign's Facebook page. No single person is dedicated to doing communications work for the campaign in 2013.
- 12. The witness stated that during the 2012 election cycle these same individuals worked for the campaign, but Jessica DeWitt was the campaign manager and Ian Field served as campaign coordinator. The witness stated that in November and December of 2012, Brett O'Donnell assisted the campaign with debate preparation services, political appearances, and post-election analysis, although the witness stated that he believes the invoices reflecting those services were received by the campaign "late." With regard to communications, in 2012 Stan Shore and Ian Field did communications work for the campaign, and Todd Winer and Riva Litman of Representative McMorris Rodgers' congressional office provided communications services as volunteers to the campaign. The witness also stated that he volunteered for the campaign during the 2012 election cycle.
- 13. With regard to the 2010 election cycle, the witness stated that he could not remember who the campaign manager was, but he recalled that Dawn Sugasa, Stan Shore, Joe Rachinsky, and Kristina Sabestinas worked for the campaign during that cycle. The witness stated that he volunteered for the campaign during the 2010 election cycle, playing an active role in media and communications.
- 14. The witness stated that his role with Representative McMorris Rodgers' campaign has been the same since the 2010 cycle. The witness reported directly to Representative McMorris Rodgers and did not report to the campaign manager: In 2012 he reported directly to Representative McMorris Rodgers and not to Jessica DeWitt. In 2010, the witness reported directly to Representative McMorris Rodgers and not to Kristina Sabestinas.
- 15. The witness was asked about Representative McMorris Rodgers' congressional office policy regarding staff doing campaign work. He responded that his understanding of the rules is that there is to be no campaign work on federal time, using federal resources, or using federal equipment. He stated that the office handbook is "very strict" and "very clear" on this policy and that staff are required to sign a document agreeing to the policy

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when they are brought on board and thereafter they receive an annual training on the policy. The witness stated that after he started working as Chief of Staff to the office in 2008, he did a special re-training on the policy for the entire staff in or about 2009 or 2010. He also stated that at staff retreats they cover the policy and there is an annual certification that staff must submit agreeing to comply with the policy.

- 16. The witness stated that the policy does not permit campaign work to be done in the congressional office or during working hours. The witness stated that the policy does permit staff to engage in campaign work during their free time, such as before work, during lunch, after work, or on weekends. When asked whether the policy requires staff to track the time they spend on campaign work, the witness stated that he does not recall such a requirement or the existence of a time-tracking form.
- 17. With regard to the campaign authorization form, the witness stated that the form was required to be completed if a staff member wanted to work on any campaign. The witness stated that if a staff member wanted to work on a campaign while they were on vacation, however, the form was not necessarily required as there was a separate form—a "leave form"—for vacation. The witness stated that he recalls that a staff member filled out an authorization form for work they wanted to do for a port commissioner election, but otherwise does not recall anyone ever asking him whether they needed to complete an authorization form.
- 18. The witness was shown an email to him from Todd Winer dated October 1, 2010 in which Mr. Winer asked if he needed to "fill out a Leave form" to cover his time in the district. The witness was asked what the "Leave form" referenced in the email was, and stated that he did not know for sure what form Mr. Winer was referencing, and does not specifically recall how he responded to Mr. Winer's email, but stated that if Mr. Winer's trip to the district was related to the campaign he would have asked him to take leave for the trip. The witness then stated that if a staff member wanted to work on Representative McMorris Rodgers' campaign, they needed to fill out a leave form.
- 19. The witness was asked whether he assisted Representative McMorris Rodgers with campaign debate preparation in 2010 and he said that he did. The witness stated that he came up with potential questions, "threw questions at" Representative McMorris Rodgers, and then critiqued her responses. The witness stated that he did this at one debate preparation session in 2010 at Representative McMorris Rodgers' home in Spokane, Washington on what he recalls was a Monday morning. The witness stated that Todd Winer and Riva Litman also attended that debate preparation session. When asked why he was in Spokane at that time, the witness stated that he would go back and forth from Washington, DC to the district multiple times each year to meet with stakeholders and conduct official meetings in the district. When asked if he spent time in the district

- Subject to the Nondisclosure Provisions of H. Res. 895 of the 110th Congress as Amended in October 2010, the witness stated that he spent a couple of weeks or a few weeks in the district at that time.
- 20. The witness was asked whether he assisted Representative McMorris Rodgers with campaign debate preparation in 2012 and he said that he did, doing the same type of duties as in 2010, but the witness recalled that at one point he played the role of Representative McMorris Rodgers' opponent in a debate preparation session. The witness recalled that there were at least three debate preparation sessions. Two of these sessions were in Spokane, Washington, with one occurring late in the evening in a boardroom and the other occurring before a debate at about 6:00 in the morning.
- 21. The witness was shown an email that he sent to various members of Representative McMorris Rodgers' congressional staff on Friday, October 5, 2012 in which he wrote, "Debate prep will start at 2:15." (JDOCE-0264). The witness also was shown a calendar item in Todd Winer's calendar on Friday, October 5, 2012 listing "Debate Prep w/ Brett O'Donnell (via phone call) 2421 RHOB." (TW\_0586). The witness stated that he does not remember that day very well and is not sure if the debate preparation session scheduled for that day was pushed to Sunday, October 7.
- 22. With regard to a campaign debate preparation session held on Sunday, October 7, 2012, the witness stated that it was held in Representative McMorris Rodgers' congressional office because they also discussed other things during that meeting, such as calendar items and policy issues.
- 23. The witness was next shown a document titled, "Debate Agenda: Friday October 5<sup>th</sup> Tuesday, October 7<sup>th</sup>." (SMOCE-0133). This document indicates that debate preparation was scheduled to take place on Friday, October 5<sup>th</sup> from 2:00-3:30 that day. The witness stated that, "it was a variety of things we were talking about" during that meeting; we certainly did the debate preparation, but also we went over the schedule as well as her trip to the district.
- 24. The witness stated that the campaign debate preparation session on Monday, October 8<sup>th</sup> occurred in the "Potlatch boardroom" in Spokane, Washington, which was a space secured by the campaign. The witness stated that the debate preparation session on Tuesday, October 9<sup>th</sup> took place in Representative McMorris Rodgers' home.
- 25. The witness was next asked about his attendance at fundraising events for Representative McMorris Rodgers' campaign in 2012. The witness stated that he attended the Pink Flamingo event in 2012. His role was just showing up; he did not run the event. The witness stated that he was in the district at the time to keep in touch with district office staff and meet with stakeholders. The witness said that he did not attend any "Ponderosa" events in 2012.

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- 26. The witness was asked whether he attended any campaign events in August 2012, and he stated that he does not recall and that perhaps he attended evening events in the district because he was in the district for a few weeks in August 2012.
- 27. The witness was asked whether he attended any "Top of the Morning" campaign events in 2012, and he stated that there were three such events in 2012, of which two were lunches. The witness recalled that he attended the Top of the Morning lunch that was held in Walla Walla.
- 28. The witness stated that when Representative McMorris Rodgers is in the district they build out her day with official business, and that campaign work is incidental. The witness recalls that he was in the district in April 2012 for about a week to work with the district office and meet with stakeholders. When asked if he was in the district to work on the campaign, the witness stated that the campaign was "not much" of a reason for the trip and that he didn't need to do much work for the campaign because Dawn Sugasa produces "turn-key" events for the campaign.
- 29. The witness was shown a document containing Representative McMorris Rodgers' schedule on April 3-7, 2012 as a point of reference. (RLOCE-0209-211). The witness stated that he attended the campaign kickoff event at 12:00 p.m. and the business roundtable event at 1:30 p.m. on April 3; the interview with Emily Jacks of KTEL radio at 11:00 a.m., the campaign kickoff lunch at 12:00 p.m., the business roundtable event in Walla Walla at 1:30 p.m., and a dinner with Dr. Schweitzer on April 4, 2012; and the campaign kickoff event at 7:30 a.m. on April 5, 2012. The witness stated that he spent the remainder of the day on April 5, 2012 in the Spokane congressional district office. With regard to the KTEL interview, the witness stated that the interview consisted of Representative McMorris Rodgers giving a "DC update." When asked whether that interview had been scheduled in response to a campaign press release, the witness stated, "I don't know," and that he was not sure whether the interview was requested by KTEL or by Representative McMorris Rodgers. The witness stated that the interview was "official" rather than campaign-related.
- 30. The witness was next asked about the 2012 Republican National Convention. The witness attended the Convention, and was there for four to five days. The witness stated that Shaughnessy Murphy, Patrick Bell, Todd Winer, Riva Litman, and Representative McMorris Rodgers also attended. Ms. Litman was there as a volunteer for the California delegation. The witness stated that he believes the congressional staffers in attendance at the Convention took leave, and he recalls telling them to take time off and believes that he saw a leave form for Patrick Bell and others. When asked if he took leave for the Convention, the witness stated "yes, I recall taking time" and added that he was "really

Subject to the Nondisclosure Provisions of H. Res. 895 of the 110th Congress as Amended good about the forms," but noted that some of the documentation may be hard to find or in different locations due to Representative McMorris Rodgers moving offices.

- 31. The witness stated that Representative McMorris Rodgers' campaign paid for his travel expenses related to the Convention. The witness recalled that the campaign booked rooms that were far away from the Convention, but that the Convention gave Representative McMorris Rodgers one room right next to the perimeter of the Convention.
- 32. When asked what his role in the Convention was, the witness stated that he was volunteering and helping out Representative McMorris Rodgers with her schedule, logistics, speeches, including assisting with preparing her Convention speech, and assisting with her media appearances during the Convention. The witness stated that Todd Winer assisted Representative McMorris Rodgers with communications work and her speeches. Shaughnessy Murphy assisted with logistical aspects of the Convention and assisted the witness. Patrick Bell assisted with logistics and communications, especially digital media matters.
- 33. The witness was asked whether Todd Winer assisted drafting Representative McMorris Rodgers' campaign speeches while Mr. Winer was employed by Representative McMorris Rodgers' congressional office. The witness stated that Mr. Winer did assist with such speeches as a volunteer and that he did not do it on official time. The witness stated that he himself also was involved in drafting Representative McMorris Rodgers' campaign speeches. Sometimes Mr. Winer would do the first draft and sometimes the witness would do the first draft and then they would "kick it around." The witness stressed that all of this work was done on non-federal email accounts and on non-government time. The witness stated that Riva Litman also was involved in drafting speeches for the campaign as a volunteer and on her own time, and Stan Shore was also involved as a consultant to the campaign. Hard copies of drafts were delivered to Representative McMorris Rodgers to her home in Washington, DC or in Spokane.
- 34. The witness stated that "on rare occasions" before Representative McMorris Rodgers left her congressional office the staff assistant or the witness would give a draft campaign speech to her.
- 35. The witness stated that if he met with Representative McMorris Rodgers to discuss campaign matters they would meet at the Davenport Hotel in the district, or if in Washington, DC, at Joe Rachinsky's office, the Capitol Hill Club, or at the NRCC, but not at her congressional office. The witness stated that he would print out hard copies of campaign speeches sometimes at the NRCC.

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- 36. When asked whether drafting campaign speeches ever occurred during congressional business hours in 2010 or 2012, he stated that he was "very strict" about not doing campaign work on official hours. The witness was then shown an email dated March 30, 2012 at 9:46 a.m. from him to Todd Winer requesting that Mr. Winer draft a campaign speech. (TW\_0311). The witness stated that, "maybe, perhaps it happened on occasion," but that this specific email was likely sent by him from the NRCC and then Mr. Winer's response was sent during a lunch hour.
- 37. The witness was next shown various emails regarding the campaign sent by him during congressional working hours to various congressional staffers. The witness responded that he does not recall where exactly he was when any of the emails were sent, and that he may have been at the NRCC, Capitol Hill Club, or at another office in DC at the time. The witness also stated that he would never request someone to "work on political things" during government hours, and that if he sent a request to a staffer during government hours the understanding was that they would do the campaign work during their own free time. His understanding also was that if a congressional staffer sent him something campaign-related during government working hours that they had completed the work during their own free time.
- 38. The witness stated that prior to the OCE review he was not aware that campaign documents had been stored on the congressional office's "s" drive.
- 39. The witness was next asked about Representative McMorris Rodgers' campaign for Chair of the Republican Conference. The witness stated that his role in the campaign was to be the manager for the election, lock up support, and handle logistics. The witness stated that Patrick Bell volunteered to work on the election, gathering information and entering it into a computer under the witness's supervision.
- 40. The witness was next asked about the production of a video and packet for Representative McMorris Rodgers' campaign for Chair of the Republican Conference. The witness stated that the congressional staff pulled together Representative McMorris Rodgers' official television and media appearances and press hits. Staff of Representative McMorris Rodgers' congressional pulled together political information.
- 41. The witness stated that the office consulted the Committee on Ethics about how to send the packet, and after a back-and-forth was told to ask House Administration, which said that they ought to use campaign resources to send the packet. The witness recalled discussing the issue with Phil Keko, George Hajiska, and Jack Deal of House Administration. When asked if he received any advice on combining official and political resources for the video and packet, the witness stated that, "I kept them separate."

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- 42. The witness stated that Patrick Bell, Todd Winer, and Riva Litman all wanted to be involved in the leadership race by "volunteering and helping out" on their own time. When asked whether congressional staff worked on the leadership race in the congressional office, the witness stated "yes," and then clarified that when he said that Patrick Bell, Todd Winer, and Riva Litman volunteered for the leadership race he meant that they were not forced to work on the race. They were not acting as volunteers for the campaign committee.
- 43. The witness stated that he spoke with Representative McMorris Rodgers regarding the leadership campaign packet and video before they printed the packet in order to get her feedback. When asked if he discussed the back-and-forth with the Committee on Ethics and House Administration with Representative McMorris Rodgers, the witness stated, "I don't think so."
- 44. The witness was next asked about Representative McMorris Rodgers' media appearances following the 2012 election. The witness stated that in December 2012, Brett O'Donnell provided "general advice" and tips regarding Representative McMorris Rodgers' media appearances. The witness stated that sometimes Mr. O'Donnell would call in before a media appearance to prepare Representative McMorris Rodgers, and other times he would meet with her in person.
- 45. When asked if these media preparation sessions in December 2012 ever took place in the Cannon House Office Building, the witness stated "maybe" and then "sometimes," and stated that other times they occurred in Representative McMorris Rodgers' home or at the site of the media interview, such as at the Supreme Court in advance of the Court's ruling on healthcare.
- 46. The witness stated that Representative McMorris Rodgers' interviews in December 2012 were a mix between official and political, and that his participation in those preparation sessions and interviews was in his official capacity as her Chief of Staff. When asked whether Brett O'Donnell was working for Representative McMorris Rodgers' campaign or the congressional office in assisting with the media appearances, the witness stated that Brett O'Donnell would provide general advice, but maybe assist with political questions if they came up.
- 47. With regard to the work provided by Mr. O'Donnell in November and December 2012, the witness stated that Mr. O'Donnell was paid out of Representative McMorris Rodgers' election campaign for the work completed during those periods. When asked why Mr. O'Donnell had been paid out of Representative McMorris Rodgers' leadership PAC, CMR PAC, in September and October of 2012, the witness stated that it was because in

- Subject to the Nondisclosure Provisions of H. Res. 895 of the 110th Congress as Amended those months Mr. O'Donnell was not helping out specifically with campaign debate preparation.
- 48. The witness stated that Brett O'Donnell also assisted him with interviewing applicants for the House Republican Conference communications director position after Mr. O'Donnell rejected an offer to take that position.
- 49. The witness was asked about Stan Shore's involvement in Representative McMorris Rodgers' leadership election, and stated that Mr. Shore worked out of Representative McMorris Rodgers' congressional office a few times, talking about the election with the witness, getting coffee, and listening to the witness's frustrations. The witness also stated that Mr. Shore helped draft Representative McMorris Rodgers' Conference Chair speech and a "handcard" that she distributed.
- 50. The witness stated that after Mr. Shore was hired by the Republican Conference, his duties involved helping draft talking points; planing retreats, including locations and agendas; assisting with Representative McMorris Rodgers' transition to Conference Chair; drafting Conference press releases; conducting interviews; reviewing contracts held by the Conference; reviewing the Conference's website; and working with Nate Hodson on the Conference's communications plan and strategy.
- 51. The witness stated that Mr. Shore is not currently employed by the Conference, but the witness stated that he does still periodically bounce ideas off of Mr. Shore and he "sometimes" comes into the Conference office in a volunteer capacity. The witness stated that Mr. Shore came into the office as recently as last week (the week prior to the interview with OCE) "for a day or two." Mr. Shore is not receiving reimbursements for his expenses. The witness explained that following the initiation of the OCE's review, Mr. Shore's payment "lapsed," and that Mr. Shore has recently been asking about being brought back on by the Conference.
- 52. The witness was asked about why Todd Winer was terminated by Representative McMorris Rodgers' congressional office. The witness stated that there were issues with his problems with management, his engagement at work, and the quality of work he was producing.
- 53. The witness stated that Mr. Winer would let things fall through the cracks and his passive-aggressive demeanor amounted to insubordination. The witness recalls that he met with him "six times or so" to discuss his performance. The witness also stated that others in the congressional office had concerns about his behavior and certain things he posted to Facebook after the Colorado shooting that were "dark and twisted."

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- 54. The witness also recalled that Mr. Winer slammed a car door in the witness's face during the 2012 Republican National Convention, and that one time in Spokane he loudly "dropped the f-bomb" in a restaurant.
- 55. The witness was shown an email to him from Mr. Winer dated October 4, 2012 in which Mr. Winer suggested that official staff not accompany Representative McMorris Rodgers to a campaign event. (TW\_0611). The witness stated that he does not recall Mr. Winer ever expressing concerns about campaign work being done on official time, and stated that he recalls telling Mr. Winer either in person or on the phone that they were not "bending campaign rules" because Mr. Winer was volunteering. The witness stated that no issues regarding volunteering on the campaign played any role in the decision to terminate Mr. Winer. Rather, the termination occurred out of concern for people's safety.
- 56. The witness was shown an email to him from Mr. Winer in which Mr. Winer stated that Representative McMorris Rodgers had suggested that congressional interns write letters to the editor (LTEs) for the campaign. The witness stated that he does not recall receiving the email, and that they would never have interns write LTEs, because interns are busy doing other things. If, however, an intern wanted to volunteer for the campaign they could do so outside of congressional time and outside of the office. The witness also stated that Representative McMorris Rodgers never mentioned having interns write LTEs to him.
- 57. The witness stated that after he notified Mr. Winer that he was terminated, Mr. Winer said that the witness would hear from his attorney and that he said something to the effect of that he was bringing the whole organization down. Shortly thereafter the witness stated that they found an email from Mr. Winer to himself with the phone number of the House's office of compliance and that the email concerned a potential lawsuit against Representative McMorris Rodgers' congressional office. The witness also recalls that Mr. Winer sent him a strange email saying "be careful out there" close before he was terminated. The witness stated that the last communication he had with Mr. Winer was in December 2012.

This memorandum was prepared on November 25, 2013, based on the notes that the OCE staff prepared during the interview with the witness on November 8, 2013. I certify that this memorandum contains all pertinent matters discussed with the witness on November 8, 2013.

Bryson B. Morgan Investigative Counsel

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# **EXHIBIT 6**

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# OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL ETHICS UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

## MEMORANDUM OF INTERVIEW

IN RE:

Representative McMorris Rodgers' Press Secretary

**REVIEW NO.:** 

13-0906

DATE:

October 30, 2013

LOCATION:

425 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, SW

Washington, DC 20024

TIME:

3:55 p.m. to 5:20 p.m. (approximately)

PARTICIPANTS:

Kedric L. Payne

Bryson B. Morgan

Elliot Berke

<u>SUMMARY</u>: The OCE requested an interview with the witness and she consented to an interview. The witness made the following statements in response to our questioning:

- 1. The witness was given an 18 U.S.C. § 1001 warning and consented to an interview. She signed a written acknowledgement of the warning, which will be placed in the case file in this review.
- 2. The witness began employment with Representative McMorris Rodgers on May 19, 2010. She was hired as the Press Secretary for her congressional office.
- 3. She learned of the position through a job listing and she interviewed for the job with Todd Winer on March 23, 2010. Her job responsibilities were to manage media relations and media lists, write speeches, assist with press conferences, and any other duties related to community outreach.
- 4. The witness stated that she does not recall whether during the interview there were any discussions about her working on the campaign.
- 5. She reported to Mr. Winer. She "checked in" with Jeremy Deutsch for any scheduling matters.
- 6. The witness is currently the Deputy Communications Director and Press Secretary for the House Republican Conference. She said that her job responsibilities for the Conference are the same as her responsibilities were for Representative McMorris Rodgers. She began employment with the Conference in January 2013. She reports to Nate Hodson.

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- 7. The witness was asked whether she did any work for Representative McMorris Rodgers' campaign during the time that she was employed with the personal congressional office. The witness said that she worked for the campaign as a volunteer.
- 8. In 2010 and 2012 she worked on phone banks for the campaign and attended local events. She also attended the Republican National Convention when Governor Mitt Romney was the nominee and helped with media related to the convention.
- 9. The witness said that she assisted Representative McMorris Rodgers with debate preparation sessions. The preparation involved researching Representative McMorris Rodgers' opponent's comments, preparation sessions, and mock debates. In 2010, she attended mock debates at Representative McMorris Rodgers' home, and played the role of her opponent on at least one occasion. She recalled that Mr. Deutsch and Mr. Winer attended. She said that Mr. Murphy did not attend.
- 10. In 2012, she did not attend the debate preparation sessions but did preparatory work for the sessions. When asked whether debate preparation sessions occurred in the Rayburn House Office Building, the witness stated that she believes that a session was held there but it was part of a larger meeting where the debate "came up."
- 11. When asked who requested her assistance with debate preparation sessions, the witness initially stated that Mr. Winer asked her to prepare Representative McMorris Rodgers as her role as Press Secretary. She then said that she volunteered as part of the campaign and the preparation sessions were not part of her official work. She said that her trips to the district at the time of the debate preparation sessions in 2010 were for non-campaign related meetings with reporters and television anchors.
- 12. The witness said that the congressional office policy was that any campaign work had to be done during personal time on the weekend, before work, during lunch break, or after work, and using personal email accounts. Campaign work could not be done on official time or in the office. She said that no one was ever forced to do campaign work. The campaign work was all voluntary.
- 13. She said she never tracked her time for doing campaign work.
- 14. When asked whether she was familiar with the office's Campaign Work Authorization Form, she said "no."
- 15. The witness told the OCE that she assisted with writing campaign speeches as part of her volunteer work. She said she wrote victory speeches and press releases. Mr. Winer asked her to write these speeches in 2010 and 2012.

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- 16. The witness was asked how she received comments from Representative McMorris Rodgers for the speeches that she wrote. The witness asked for clarification of whether the question related to campaign speeches as opposed to official speeches. After the OCE clarified that the questions pertained to campaign speeches, the witness said that sometimes Mr. Deutsch provided comments on the speeches.
- 17. The witness said that she often gave paper copies of draft speeches to Representative McMorris Rodgers and she provided her with handwritten edits. She stated that the Congresswoman preferred to provide handwritten edits, and was an active editor.
- 18. When asked how she gave the paper copies of speeches to Representative McMorris Rodgers, the witness told the OCE that the speeches were placed in a nightly folder that staff prepared for the Congresswoman, but that sometimes campaign speeches were not placed in the nightly folder, but rather given to her by her scheduler.
- 19. When asked whether the nightly folder was provided to the Congresswoman in the congressional office, the witness said yes, but that the folder was sometimes instead delivered to the Congresswoman at her home. When asked where the witness prepared the speeches that were placed in the nightly folder, the witness stated that she went home and prepared the speeches and then returned to work for them to be placed in the nightly folder. The witness stated that she never did campaign work in the office. She also stated that her roommate was the office scheduler and she would sometimes drive the speeches from their home to Representative McMorris Rodgers' home to deliver them.
- 20. At this point in the questioning, counsel for the witness requested a break for the witness. Following the break, the witness returned and stated that her descriptions of the speeches in the nightly binder referred to official speeches and not campaign speeches.
- 21. She then stated that she did not recall ever giving any speeches to Representative McMorris Rodgers in the congressional office in 2010. She told the OCE that Mr. Winer was responsible for dealing with final edits and giving speeches to the Congresswoman.
- 22. In 2012, the witness recalled assisting with a campaign press release and victory speech that had been initially drafted by Todd Winer, and the witness stated that she delivered the press release and victory speech to Representative McMorris Rodgers via email while she was in Spokane. The witness also stated that she wrote the Congresswoman's remarks for an event with Rick Santorum. The witness did not have any in-person meetings with the Congresswoman about any campaign speeches in 2012. She also stated that the campaign speeches were not discussed during the weekly Monday staff calls that Representative McMorris Rodgers attended.

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- 23. The witness stated that she never wrote campaign speeches in the congressional office and never used congressional computers to write campaign speeches.
- 24. The witness stated that Stan Shore was an outside consultant for Representative McMorris Rodgers' political ads. The witness stated that she first met Mr. Shore in 2012. The witness stated that Patrick Bell was in charge of social media for the campaign.
- 25. The witness traveled to the congressional district in October 2010 for approximately two weeks. During that time, she assisted with preparing Representative McMorris Rodgers for campaign debates. She does not recall any additional campaign activity that she performed during that trip.
- 26. In April 2012, she traveled to the district for campaign activity that included "Top of the Morning" events in Colville and Spokane with Representative McMorris Rodgers. She traveled at the request of Mr. Winer. During the trip, she was involved in matters with media organizations, including calling into talk shows. The witness characterized the media work as a mix of campaign and official media.
- 27. She told the OCE that the April 2012 trip was primarily campaign related, and that she took leave from work to travel to the district during that period. She recalled that Dawn Sugasa attended certain events with her and was in charge of fundraising, but she is uncertain whether Mr. Shore also attended. Patrick Bell attended and assisted with the Top of the Morning events, including assisting with sound equipment. Mr. Deutsch attended the events and was responsible for overseeing everything.
- 28. When asked who covered her travel expenses, the witness stated that she did not know. She said that she submitted her reimbursement requests to a staffer in the district office and was paid through direct deposit into her checking account.
- 29. The witness stated that she traveled to the congressional district in November 2012, for campaign and official work, including a lot of media-related work such as meeting with reporters. The witness stated that the trip was primarily campaign related, and she took leave for the trip. She traveled at the request of Mr. Winer, but she volunteered to do campaign activity. Mr. Murphy and Mr. Deutsch also traveled with her to the district in November 2012. They worked with her on events for the reelection campaign and for Representative McMoriss Rodgers' leadership race. When asked who covered her travel expenses, the witness stated that she did not know. She said that she submitted her reimbursement requests to a staffer in the district office and was paid through direct deposit into her checking account.

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- 30. When asked whether she submitted leave forms to the office for her time in the district in April and November 2012, the witness said that she believes she submitted the forms to Mr. Winer for him to send on to the district office person in charge of leave.
- 31. The witness never declined any request for her to go to the district. She said that she never felt any pressure to volunteer for the campaign and did not feel expected to do volunteer work. No one in the office felt as though they were coerced to work on the campaign.
- 32. The witness was shown an email from her to Mr. Winer, dated August 9, 2012. (JDOCE-0034). She stated that the Republican California Delegation paid for her travel to the Republican National Convention in 2012. She also received a per diem from the delegation. She assumed that Representative McMorris Rodgers' campaign would save money if the California Delegation paid for her expenses. She said that she took a leave of absence from the congressional office to attend the convention. The witness stated that her duties during the Convention were to help Representative McMorris Rodgers prepare for speeches and set up media interviews for the Congresswoman.
- 33. The witness stated that she assisted Representative McMorris Rodgers with her race for Chair of the House Republican Conference beginning one to two weeks before the leadership election. Specifically, she assisted with creating and editing a packet at the request of Mr Bell. She worked on this project with Mr. Deutsch, Mildred Webber, Mr. Shore, Ms. Sugasa, and Mr. Murphy. She recalled that Mr. Winer also assisted with the project, because she and Mr. Winer split up the work of pulling video clips for the packet.
- 34. The witness provided video clips to be included in the video that was created for the race. She compiled the clips by reviewing media interviews and pulling useful excerpts. The witness also provided input into which video clips were used.
- 35. She told the OCE that she worked on these projects both at her home and in the congressional office, initially using her official congressional email account but later using her gmail account. When asked whether she was doing the work for the campaign or the congressional office, the witness stated that she viewed it as official work and as part of her official duties as a House employee, but added that she was never specifically told "how it was delineated."
- 36. Mr. Bell was the point person for the leadership packet and video and he is the person who asked the witness to compile the clips for the video.
- 37. The witness stated that she did not recall having any conversations with Representative McMorris Rodgers about her work on the packet and video.

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- 38. The witness first met Brett O'Donnell around February 2012. At that time, the Congresswoman wanted to improve her public speaking. Mr. Winer and the witness met with Mr. O'Donnell to discuss assistance he could provide.
- 39. Mr. O'Donnell began working with the Congresswoman, including assisting with preparing her for television appearances. The preparation sessions for the media appearances were sometimes done via telephone and sometimes in the congressional office. The preparation sessions were typically attended by Mr. Winer, Mr. O'Donnell, the witness, and Representative McMorris Rogers. The witness was asked whether Mr. O'Donnell did any such sessions after the 2012 election. The witness responded that Mr. O'Donnell did do such sessions in December 2012. Sometimes Mr. O'Donnell would call in, and sometimes he would be present. The sessions sometimes occurred in the congressional office or sometimes at the Congresswoman's home. When asked whether the preparation sessions were campaign or official congressional work, the witness stated that they were official as far as she knows.
- 40. The witness recalled that in November 2012, Mr. Shore was in the congressional office. She assumed that he was working on the packet for Representative McMorris Rodgers' leadership race as well as on a database of votes. She said that she believes Mr. Shore worked with Mr. Deutsch in the Chief of Staff office.
- 41. The witness worked with Mr. Shore in or about late January or February 2013 when she became the Press Secretary for the Republican Conference. The witness stated that she interacted with Mr. Shore regularly. Mr. Shore consulted on Representative McMorris Rodgers' speeches and assisted with other speeches.
- 42. The witness told the OCE her most recent communication with Mr. Shore happened approximately one week prior to her interview with the OCE when Mr. Shore was in the Republican Conference office. She stated that Mr. Shore comes into the office approximately once per month for a period of about three to seven days. She said that her interaction with him currently with respect to the consultation he provides is the same as it was in January-February 2013.
- 43. The witness was never employed with Representative McMorris Rodgers' leadership PAC.
- 44. When asked why Mr. Winer is no longer employed with Representative McMorris Rodgers' office, the witness said that working with Mr. Winer was difficult. He was "late to a lot of things," and did not fully complete projects.
- 45. The witness sensed an increase in Mr. Winer's frustration and an increase in frustration between Mr. Winer and Mr. Deutsch. She sensed that Mr. Winer was frustrated with

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Representative McMorris Rodgers, Ms. Webber, and Mr. Deutsch because Mr. Winer's role in the office was diminished. Mr. Shore took precedence over him with communications advice.

- 46. Mr. Winer was originally told around Thanksgiving 2012 that he would not move to the Republican Conference office. The decision was made final around the end of December.
- 47. The witness became responsible for his duties when Mr. Winer left the office. Mr. O'Donnell occasionally assisted the office with media contacts, but he did not assist the office with written materials.
- 48. The witness said that she never felt physically threatened by Mr. Winer.

This memorandum was prepared on November 20, 2013, based on the notes that the OCE staff prepared during the interview with the witness on October 30, 2013. I certify that this memorandum contains all pertinent matters discussed with the witness on October 30, 2013.

Kedric L. Payne Deputy Chief Counsel

# EXHIBIT 7

Subject to the Nondisclosure Provisions of H. Res. 895 of the 110th Congress as Amended

## OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL ETHICS UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

## **MEMORANDUM OF INTERVIEW**

IN RE: Representative McMorris Rodgers' Former Communications Director

**REVIEW NO.:** 13-0906

DATE: October 14, 2013 LOCATION: 425 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, SW

Washington, DC 20024

TIME: 2:00 p.m. to 5:35 p.m. (approximately)

PARTICIPANTS: Kedric L. Payne

Scott F. Gast

<u>SUMMARY</u>: The OCE requested an interview with the witness and he consented to an interview. The witness made the following statements in response to our questioning:

- 1. The witness was given an 18 U.S.C. § 1001 warning and consented to an interview. He signed a written acknowledgement of the warning, which will be placed in the case file in this review.
- 2. The witness is the former Communications Director for Representative Cathy McMorris Rodgers. He was hired on December 21, 2009.
- 3. The witness told the OCE that he was first contacted by Representative McMorris Rodgers' congressional office in November 2009 when the Chief of Staff, Jeremy Deutsch, asked whether he was interested in a communications director position.
- 4. The witness had three interviews for the position. The first interview was with Mr. Deutsch and the Deputy Chief of Staff, David Condon. The second interview was with Mr. Deutsch and Kimberly Betz. The final interview was with Mr. Deutsch, Ms. Betz, and Representative McMorris Rodgers.
- 5. The witness stated that the job duties for the positions, as described during the interview, were to lead communication operations in the office and manage a press secretary and a new media employee. He was told that his duties would include writing speeches, press releases, and scripts; scheduling media interviews; and maintaining the website. Duties related to Representative McMorris Rodgers' campaign were never discussed.
- 6. When asked whether he had prior experience working on campaigns, the witness stated that he had previously worked part time for a Senator's office and the Senator's campaign

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- Subject to the Nondisclosure Provisions of H. Res. 895 of the 110th Congress as Amended committee. During that time, the witness wrote campaign speeches for the Senator's campaign.
- 7. The witness stated that after he was hired, his duties typically consisted of writing two or three press releases per week. These press releases concerned issues such as activities related to Representative McMorris Rodgers' congressional committee assignments (e.g., energy, healthcare) or her responsibilities as Vice Chair of the Republican Conference. He also wrote speeches for her, including speeches for the House floor, constituent events in the district, and presentations before various groups on Capitol Hill. In addition, the witness was responsible for responding to calls from reporters and requests for interviews with Representative McMorris Rodgers.
- 8. The witness reported directly to Mr. Deutsch. He did not report directly to Representative McMorris Rodgers. In 2010 and 2011, Mr. Deutsch routinely reviewed speeches that the witness drafted and provided edits. In 2012, the witness had more direct contact with Representative McMorris Rodgers when drafting her speeches.
- 9. Initially, the Press Secretary who reported to the witness was Bill Toye. In 2010, Mr. Toye left and Riva Litman became the Press Secretary. The witness was involved in the hiring of Ms. Litman.
- Initially, Matthew Lundh was the staffer responsible for new media. He reported to the witness. In 2010, Mr. Ludun left and Patrick Bell became responsible for new media until 2012.
- 11. In May 2012, the witness became Senior Advisor in addition to serving as Communications Director. His duties as Senior Advisor were to plan for Representative McMorris Rodgers' campaign for Chair of the Republican Conference, including plans related to strategy and logistics. He received a pay increase for this new role and Mr. Deutsch remained his supervisor. The witness told the OCE that ultimately he did not have these duties with the leadership race.
- 12. The witness stated that he was never employed with Representative McMorris Rodgers' campaign committee.
- 13. He said that he was asked to do campaign work on approximately his third day of work in 2009. He told the OCE that Mr. Deutsch came to his desk and told him that he wanted to assist a former staffer of Representative McMorris Rodgers who was running for Congress, Jaime Herrera Beutler. Mr. Deutsch asked whether the witness was available to help with drafting an issues page for a webpage that the candidate was creating. The witness agreed and then Mr. Deutsch introduced the Beutler campaign to the witness with an email.

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- 14. When asked whether he told Mr. Deutsch that he did not want to do the campaign work, the witness stated that he did not decline to assist with campaign work because it was his first week and he wanted to cooperate and not cause a problem. He said that he eventually pushed back.
- 15. He said that during his employment with Representative McMorris Rodgers, it was never made clear that campaign work was optional or was to be performed consistent with House rules.
- 16. When asked whether he objected to doing campaign work in general, the witness told the OCE that he should have been told prior to accepting employment with Representative McMorris Rodgers that campaign work was expected. He said that he would have asked for a higher salary. He also stated that he would have wanted the campaign work to have been performed consistent with congressional ethics rules. He felt that Mr. Deutsch and Representative McMorris Rodgers were putting the office at risk by not having a wall between campaign and official work.
- 17. The witness wrote campaign speeches for Representative McMorris Rodgers. He first began writing campaign speeches in January or February of 2010. The first campaign speech was for Lincoln Day events. He stated that the purpose of the speech was to serve as a pre-campaign kickoff where she discussed her activities in Congress and her plans for the election. Riva Litman also wrote campaign speeches.
- 18. The witness told the OCE that Mr. Deutsch asked him to write the Lincoln Day speech. After receiving the assignment, the witness contacted Representative McMorris Rodgers' District Director to ask what should be included in the speech. He also believes that he spoke with the district campaign fundraiser, Dawn Sugasa. Ms. Sugasa may have sent him previous campaign speeches. He does not know who wrote campaign speeches prior to his employment.
- 19. The witness drafted the speech and gave it to Mr. Deutsch to review. The witness believes that he had a meeting with Representative McMorris Rodgers and Mr. Deutsch to discuss the speech in the congressional office. He said that Representative McMorris Rodgers was positive about the speech.
- 20. The witness usually drafted campaign speeches on his congressional office computer and during business hours. He stated that there were no discussions about the use of official resources or official time or the need to track the amount of time spent on campaign activity.
- 21. The witness stated that, around September 2010, Mr. Deutsch explicitly told him that he wanted to keep down costs for Representative McMorris' campaign so that the campaign

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- Subject to the Nondisclosure Provisions of H. Res. 895 of the 110th Congress as Amended would have more money to contribute to candidates and build support for her race for the Republican Conference.
- 22. The witness told the OCE that he did not volunteer to write speeches. He did not express any objection to writing speeches because he feared reprisal. He said that his fear of reprisal was later justified.
- 23. Representative McMorris Rodgers campaign had two full-time employees: a campaign manager and a campaign fundraiser. Kristian Sabestinas was the campaign manager when the witness began employment with the congressional office. Ms. Sabestinas left the campaign around January 2012 to work for the Mayor of Spokane, Washington. Jessica Dewitt was hired to replace Ms. Sabestinas around April 2012.
- 24. Ms. Sugasa was the fundraiser employed with the campaign throughout the time that the witness was employed with the congressional office.
- 25. Stan Shore was a consultant for the campaign. Zach Nichols worked from around February 2010 to November 2010 as a junior campaign staffer responsible for answering phone, distributing campaign signs, staff fundraisers, and similar tasks.
- 26. The campaign staff received assignments from Mr. Deutsch and he was more involved with the campaign when Ms. Dewitt was the campaign manager.
- 27. When asked whether Representative McMorris Rodgers asked him to write campaign speeches, the witness said no. However, he said she was always involved in drafting of the speeches. He told the OCE that he sent drafts of speeches directly to Representative McMorris Rodgers but that she rarely sent him any comments.
- 28. Usually the congressional staff compiled a weekly binder for Representative McMorris Rodgers that included the campaign speeches.
- 29. On the occasions that Representative McMorris Rodgers had comments on the speeches, she usually had in-person discussions with the witness in the congressional office. These discussions were occasionally over the phone when Representative McMorris Rodgers was in the district. The witness stated that an example of him working closely with Representative McMorris Rodgers to prepare a campaign speech was for the Republican National Convention in 2012.
- 30. The witness told the OCE that he drafted campaign press releases for Representative McMorris Rodgers. When asked when he wrote his first campaign press release for Representative McMorris Rodgers, the witness stated that it was around April 2010, after Mr. Bell traveled to the district and spent a week working on the campaign kickoff, including arranging media interview.

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- 31. Mr. Deutsch came to the witness' work station in the congressional office to discuss the need to send out a press release. Mr. Deutsch then sent out a press release about Representative McMorris Rodgers filing for re-election. The witness also wrote a statement that was included in the re-election filing.
- 32. The witness recalled discussing the campaign release with Representative McMorris Rodgers and Mr. Deutsch while walking with the Member on her way to vote in the Capitol. This discussion occurred during regular business hours. The witness stated that he drafted the release in the congressional office.
- 33. He sent the press release to media using his personal email account. He told the OCE that he cannot remember if he was told to use his own email account or whether he decided to use his own email account on his own. He always used his personal email account for any campaign activity.
- 34. When asked about the volume of campaign press releases that he wrote, the witness stated that he wrote a few releases in October 2010. In 2011, he sent out very few and remembers a release concerning Representative McMorris Rodgers endorsing Mitt Romney.
- 35. In 2012, the witness was very active and wrote several campaign press releases. The releases included statements for the Washington presidential caucus (March 2012), Republican National Convention (August 2012), Representative McMorris Rodgers election (October November 2012), and various events for Mitt Romney.
- 36. When asked about the role of Ms. Litman in writing campaign press releases, the witness stated that she worked on campaign press releases in 2012.
- 37. The witness told the OCE that Mr. Deutsch assigned him campaign press releases to draft. When the witness did not have time to work on the press releases, the witness assigned the tasks to Ms. Litman. He said that Ms. Litman never expressed any concern about doing campaign work. He said that he told Ms. Litman that she was not obligated to do anything that she did not want to do. He believes that he told her this around September 2010 when Ms. Sabestinas was coordinating a letter writing campaign to a newspaper editor. He said that he told her this because it was her first exposure to the busy campaign season that was approaching. He did not discuss with her how to record her time for campaign activity and official activity.
- 38. When asked whether he ever volunteered to work on campaign press releases, the witness said no. He never declined to work on campaign press releases. He said that he did not want to work on the campaign press releases because they added to his workload. He thought the activity was an unnecessary risk to Representative McMorris Rodgers.

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- 39. When asked whether he would have worked on the campaign if (1) there were no threat of reprisal; and (2) the work complied to ethics rules, he said that he would not have because he does not see himself as a campaign person and did not want to do campaign work.
- 40. The witness stated that he would always have Representative McMorris Rodgers review and approve press releases before he sent them to the media. He was present when she reviewed certain releases, but others he sent to her and he received her comments from Mr. Deutsch. She did not review releases that were simply advisories, as opposed to statements.
- 41. The witness traveled to the congressional district to perform campaign activity on numerous occasions. In August 2010, he traveled to the district and stayed for approximately ten days for official and campaign activities. The campaign activities were the Pink Flamingo campaign fundraiser and the Ponderosa Women's Lunch.
- 42. The Pink Flamingo fundraiser is an event held annually at the home of one of Representative McMorris Rodgers' donors. The event is held during the week and partly during business hours, from approximately 3:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. The witness believes that the Ponderosa Women's lunch is held every election year and is sponsored by an organization of Spokane Republican women.
- 43. The witness wrote Representative McMorris Rodgers' speeches for both events. He recalled that Mr. Deutsch, Mr. Condon, and all of the district office staffers attended the events.
- 44. In October 2010, he traveled to the district to perform various campaign activities. He participated in preparing Representative McMorris Rodgers for campaign debates. He also attended meetings with the editorial boards of several newspapers concerning her campaign. He attended media interviews with Representative McMorris Rodgers and prepared press releases. The witness stated that Ms. Litman and Mr. Bell were also in the district during different time periods in October. Mr. Murphy was in the district for a month.
- 45. The witness told the OCE that around this time in October 2010 he emailed Mr. Deutsch and asked whether Ms. Litman and Mr. Bell should take leave during their time in the district. The witness never received a response from Mr. Deutsch.
- 46. The witness stayed at the Hotel Davenport during his travel in the district in October 2010. He believes that his food and hotel expenses were reimbursed by the congressional office.

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- 47. When asked what official activities he performed while in the district in October 2010, the witness could not recall any and stated that there may not have been any official activities.
- 48. In August 2011, the witness traveled to the district and stayed for approximately one week for campaign activities. The primary purpose of his trip was to attend the Pink Flamingo fundraiser. Mr. Deutsch also attended the fundraiser.
- 49. When asked why he stayed in the district for a week, the witness stated that it was a long commute to the district and the additional time provided an opportunity to see the district. He said that almost every staff member in the Washington, DC office traveled to the district "to see" district every year.
- 50. In August 2012, the witness traveled to the district and stayed for approximately one week for campaign activity. He attended the Pink Flamingo fundraiser and the Ponderosa Women's Lunch. He recalled that the other congressional staffers who attended the Pink Flamingo event were Mr. Bell, Mr. Murphy, Mr. Deutsch, and Mr. Leland. He recalled that Ms. Litman attended the Ponderosa Women's Lunch.
- 51. The witness described the primary purpose of his trip to the district in August 2012 as press concerning Representative McMorris Rodgers' primary election. During the trip, the witness worked on press releases and interviews for Representative McMorris Rodgers' primary election and her appearances for Mitt Romney.
- 52. When asked whether he performed any official duties during this trip to the district, the witness told the OCE that he posted photographs of Representative McMorris Rodgers with her constituents on her Facebook page and he had calls with reporters concerning official matters.
- 53. In October 2012, the witness traveled to the district and stayed approximately one week for campaign activity. The witness was shown a document with a calendar of October 2012 (SMOCE-0372). He stated that handwriting on the document indicated events that Representative McMorris Rodgers attended for other candidates. Mr. Deutsch or Ms. Sugasa would have staffed Representative McMorris Rodgers for these events. The witness did not attend these events.
- 54. The witness was shown an email from Louise Fendrich to Shaughnessy Murphy attaching a schedule for the week of October 8, 2012 (SMOCE-0340). He did not know whether he had seen the document before, but he remembered the events.
- 55. On October 9, 2012, he attended the KSPS debate along with Mr. Deutsch, Mr. Murphy, Mr. Bell, and Ms. Sabestinas. The witness also attended an event for Rick Santorum to

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- Subject to the Nondisclosure Provisions of H. Res. 895 of the 110th Congress as Amended staff the Congresswoman. The witness is not certain whether Mr. Murphy or Richard Leland attended the event as indicated in the document.
- 56. The witness did not attend the event for Caterpillar or the Wear-Tek Tour. He recalled that the phone interview with Trova Hefferman did not happen.
- 57. On October 10, 2012, the witness prepared Representative McMorris Rodgers for a phone interview on a radio show. The Congresswoman called into the radio show from her home and there were no staff members with her at that time.
- 58. The witness did not attend the Roundtable with Employee Owned Businesses, the event with a World War II Veteran, or the Seniors Roundtable scheduled for that day.
- 59. He prepared Representative McMorris Rodgers for and attended the phone interview with the Union Bulletin. He described this as a campaign interview where the Congresswoman called in from her congressional office in Spokane. The Congresswoman and her opponent spoke to the editors of the Union Bulletin in an effort to gain the endorsement of the newspaper.
- 60. The witness stated that he attended the event listed as "Political Homebuilders." He described it as event with discussions concerning Representative McMorris Rodgers campaign. Mr. Murphy and Mr. Leland attended. The witness did not attend the tour of the Renal Center, the meeting with the school Superintendent, or the dinner with campaign donors.
- 61. On October 11, 2012, the witness attended the editorial board meeting with the Spokesman newspaper. He also attended the debate preparation session that day. He did not attend the lunch with Larry Larison.
- 62. On October 12, 2012, the witness attended the debate preparation session. He did not attend the meeting with district office staff and he is not certain that the meeting actually occurred.
- 63. The witness was shown an Acknowledgment of Receipt of Employee Handbook for the Office of Congresswoman Cathy McMorris Rodgers and Employee Leave Request Forms bearing the name of the witness (CMROCE-0032-0040). The witness stated that he had no reason to believe that the signature on the documents were not his. He told the OCE that he discussed the forms with Mr. Deutsch because he approved the requests. He did not discuss the forms with Representative McMorris Rodgers.
- 64. When asked why he had not submitted any forms for his trips to the district where he engaged in campaign activity, the witness stated that it was "sold" to him that the trips were part of his government duties and there was no need to take leave.

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- 65. He did not want to use vacation days for campaign work because he wanted to use those days for vacation.
- 66. He said that it was up to the Mr. Deutsch to enforce rules so he did not take time off at his own initiative. He stated that most employees would not use vacation days for campaign activity unless coerced to do it. He never completed vacation forms for campaign work.
- 67. The witness assisted Representative McMorris Rodgers with preparation for her campaign debates. He researched and drafted questions and answers prior to the debate preparation. The debate preparation sessions consisted of staff asking Representative McMorris Rodgers questions and evaluating her responses. Staff, including Mr. Deutsch, played the role of her debate opponent during the preparation sessions.
- 68. In 2010, the witness compiled a fifty page debate preparation package with examples of debate questions and answers for Representative McMorris Rodgers. Ms. Litman drafted a briefing on her debate opponent. Mr. Murphy and legislative staff provided background on local issues.
- 69. The witness stated that he attended four debate preparation sessions in 2012. He attended a session on Friday, October 5, 2012 that was held in Representative McMorris Rodgers' congressional office in Washington, DC. He told the OCE that the following individuals also attended: Mr. Deutsch, Mr. Murphy, Ms. Litman, Brett O'Donnell, and Representative McMorris Rodgers.
- 70. He attended a debate preparation session on Monday, October 8, 2012, that was held in an office building in Spokane, Washington. Mr. Deutsch, Mr. Murphy, Ms. Sugasa, Mr. Bell, Mr. Shore, and Representative McMorris Rodgers attended.
- 71. He attended a debate preparation session on Tuesday, October 9, 2012, that was held in Representative McMorris Rodgers' congressional office in Spokane, Washington. Mr. Deutsch, Mr. Murphy, Mr. Bell, and Representative McMorris Rodgers attended.
- 72. Another debate preparation session was held on Friday October 12, 2012, but the witness did not attend. He stated that Mr. Murphy, Mr. Bell, Mr. Deutsch, Mr. Shore, and Representative McMorris Rodgers attended. The witness was late and missed this preparation session, but he attended the debate that happened that day.
- 73. He told the OCE that a debate preparation session was scheduled for Sunday, October 7, 2012, but it did not occur.
- 74. When asked whether he volunteered to assist with the campaign debate preparation, the witness said no. He stated that he felt compelled to participate.

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- 75. The witness said that he felt compelled to do campaign work because in August 2010, Mr. Deutsch bragged to him and Kim Betz that he had pushed out several staffers who he considered not loyal to him and not team players.
- 76. The witness believed that if he did not do what Mr. Deutsch wanted him to do he would find himself unemployed. Mr. Deutsch gave the example of Chrissy Poe that happened in July 2009. He had told staffers that they should do what they were told or they would end up like Chrissy Po. The witness said that he does not know exactly why Ms. Poe was terminated.
- 77. The witness told the OCE that he does not recall ever telling Mr. Deutsch "no" in response to a request to do campaign work. The witness felt as though his job was safe because he was doing everything that Mr. Deutsch wanted him to do.
- 78. The witness "pushed back" in October 2012. He sent an email to Mr. Deutsch stating that it was not a good idea to have a member of the congressional staff attend the meeting with Representative McMorris Rodgers and the editorial board of the Spokane newspaper. The witness followed up with Mr. Deutsch in person and asked if he received the email. Mr. Deutsch told the witness that he received the email and said "we're fine."
- 79. In late 2012, the witness had a performance review that included campaign matters. Eight days later and he was told that his services were no longer needed. The witness stated that these actions support his perception that campaign activity had to be performed.
- 80. When asked about Representative McMorris Rodgers' knowledge about the campaign activity of congressional staff, the witness stated that she knew everything that was going on with the campaign and congressional office being blended. The witness did not think that she "spearheaded" this activity but she was aware of what Mr. Deutsch was doing and he was acting consistent with her desires.
- 81. The witness stated that Representative McMorris Rodgers did not take any action when he told her that Mr. Deutsch was pushing him out based on campaign activity. The witness believes that her not responding was her allowing Mr. Deutsch to be the enforcer of that "philosophy."
- 82. The witness met Mr. O'Donnell in March or April 2012, after Mr. Deutsch asked the witness to find a coach to assist Representative McMorris Rodgers with public speaking.
- 83. The issue of hiring a coach had first been raised as an issue a year prior to April 2012. Representative McMorris Rodgers raised the issue again around March 2012.

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- 84. Representative McMorris Rodgers' campaign committee paid Mr. O'Donnell. The witness stated that Representative McMorris' idea was probably to use Mr. O'Donnell to help both her congressional office and her campaign.
- 85. Mr. O'Donnell was hired to assist Representative McMorris Rodgers with the 2012 campaign debates and with public speaking in general.
- 86. Monthly meetings were held from April 2012 to November 2012 where Mr. O'Donnell reviewed tapes of the Congresswoman's interviews and speeches and provided critiques and tips.
- 87. The meetings were held in Representative McMorris Rogers' congressional office in Washington, DC. The attendees varied, but included Representative McMorris Rodgers, Mr. O'Donnell, Ms. Litman, Mr. Deutsch, Mr. Murphy, and Karen Summar. Ms. Summar was a legislative fellow.
- 88. Following the general election in November 2012, Mr. O'Donnell had a role with Representative McMorris Rodgers' leadership race for conference chair. He was involved in generating media attention with pundits and journalists.
- 89. From December 3 to December 20, Mr. O'Donnell became the *de facto* press secretary for the Congresswoman. He was in the congressional office almost daily. The witness recalled that on December 3, 2012, there was a two-hour meeting with Representative McMorris Rodgers, Mr. O'Donnell, Ms. Litman, and the witness concerning media strategy. The meeting was about an appearance on Fox News and covering messaging and general tips on improving the Congresswoman's communication skills.
- 90. The witness told the OCE that Mr. O'Donnell also staffed the Congresswoman during interviews. Ms. Litman also attended a few of these interviews.
- 91. The witness saw Mr. O'Donnell, Ms. Litman, and Representative McMorris Rodgers on their way to media interviews. He also saw Mr. O'Donnell discussing media preparation matters with Ms. Litman.
- 92. The witness did not attend media preparation meetings during this time in December because his employment was ending. Mr. O'Donnell began doing more media work and was added to the email recipient list for media. When asked whether Mr. O'Donnell was given any congressional office space, the witness said no.
- 93. Mr. O'Donnell led meetings to prep Representative McMorris Rodgers for interviews. He also directed Ms. Litman on content of written material and made sure that she included certain messaging points. The witness never saw Mr. O'Donnell write any press materials.

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- 94. The witness said that media interview requests were still sent to him at the time and he had Ms. Litman handle the requests.
- 95. In late December 2012, the communications director for the Republican Conference was hired. Ms. Litman became the press secretary for the conference in late January 2013. In May 2013, Representative McMorris Rodgers' office hired a press secretary.
- 96. The witness was shown an email from Mr. Shore to Mr. Deutsch, dated December 9, 2012 (CMROCE-0355). The witness was asked whether his memory was refreshed by the statement "Todd-he should not come in . . . ." He stated that he was told on December 10, 2012, that he could have six weeks of pay to look for a new job. He said that he came in the office every day except for vacation days. He was told on January 11, 2013 that it was his last day of employment with the office.
- 97. He stated that Representative McMorris Rodgers race for Republican Leadership Chair became a "main thing" in September 2012. When he was hired, the leadership race was not discussed as his duties. He was first told that he would help with the leadership race when he was promoted to Senior Advisor in early May 2012. He saw working on the leadership race as part of his official duties.
- 98. His role in the leadership race was to work with Mr. Deutsch to create talking points for Representative McMorris Rodgers to use when she spoke with other Members of Congress. He was also involved in encouraging reporters to write about the Congresswoman in an effort to increase her national profile.
- 99. In late September 2012, the witness fielded media questions concerning Representative McMorris Rodgers' leadership race. He also created press releases concerning her race. Mr. Bell and Ms. Litman had roles with the leadership race.
- 100. The witness said that the leadership race did not really begin until the day after the general election. Mr. Shore, Ms. Sugasa, and Mr. O'Donnell were all brought in to help with the race at that point. Ms. Sugasa began around November 7, 2012 and Mr. Shore arrive around November 12, 2012.
- 101. The witness worked with Ms. Sugasa and Mr. Shore on the conference race. Mr. Deutsch asked the witness to review draft speeches for the race. Mr. Deutsch wanted Mr. Shore to review all press releases on the leadership race beginning on November 12.
- 102. When asked about his role with the packet that was created for the leadership race, the witness stated that he reviewed and edited the mailing that Mr. Shore drafted. The witness and Ms. Litman both reviewed and edited the packet at the request of Mr. Bell. The witness recalled that there were multiple rounds of edits. He spent approximately

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- 103. When asked about his role with the video that was created for the leadership race, the witness said that Mr. Bell emailed him and Ms. Litman, requesting that they look for media clips to include in the mailing. The witness said that the project required two hours each of his time and Ms. Litman's time. Later, Mr. Bell emailed a draft of the video to the witness who provided minor feedback.
- 104. The witness did not have any discussions with Representative McMorris Rodgers or Mr. Deutsch about the packet or video for her leadership race.
- 105. The witness was shown an email from Ms. Sabestinas to him, dated March 16, 2011 (TW\_0202). He told the OCE that the Lincoln Day events were three difference events. Usually the same speech was used for each event with some revisions. The witness never attended any Lincoln Day events.
- 106. The witness was shown an email from him to Mr. Deutsch, dated June 18, 2012 (TW\_0382). He said that the press briefing referenced in the email was a weekly meeting held with Representative McMorris Rodgers, Ms. Litman, and the witness to discuss press issues. These meeting began in 2011. He recalled that during a few of these press briefing campaign matters were discussed, but that was very rare. He recalled that Representative McMorris Rodgers wanted to find people to submit letters to editors supporting Representative McMorris Rodgers' official work. It was not campaign related. He said that the campaign was not on the radar at this time in June 2012.
- 107. The witness was shown an email from him to Ms. Litman, dated August 8, 2012 (TW\_0733). He said that he referenced Ms. Litman's personal account in the email because the recipients of the clips included official staff, campaign staff, and others. He said using official email accounts would have violated ethics rules and would have been "bad optics".
- 108. Ms. Litman compiled clips list daily and emailed from her government computer. The witness did not have a conversation with Ms. Litman concerning the use of office resources or time. He said the attitude in the office was see no evil, hear no evil.
- 109. When asked whether he was directing Ms. Litman to use official resources for campaign activity, the witness said that he was "executing the vision" of Mr. Deutsch that the recipients were to see the clips.
- 110. The witness was shown an email from him to Ms. Litman, dated October 24, 2012 (RLOCE-0086). When asked about the email's reference to "free time", the witness said

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that he was trying to be consistent with responsibilities of congressional employees and what was voluntary. He said that, occasionally, Mr. Deutsch phrased his requests for help with campaign work similarly. The requests would mention free time or lunch. Such requests were given especially during the beginning of the time that the witness worked in the office. During 2011, the assignments of campaign work were framed more as requests.

- 111. During 2012, the campaign work assignment that the witness received from Mr. Deutsch were not phrased as requests.
- 112. The witness was shown an email from him to Ms. Litman, dated October 3, 2012 (RLOCE-0068). He stated that Mr. Murphy received an email from the campaign and he forwarded the request to the witness who then forwarded it to Ms. Litman. He said that he asked whether Ms. Litman had time, which was consistent with request for a voluntary request that she could do on her own time.

This memorandum was prepared on November 20, 2013, based on the notes that the OCE staff prepared during the interview with the witness on October 14, 2013. I certify that this memorandum contains all pertinent matters discussed with the witness on October 14, 2013.

Kedric L. Payne Deputy Chief Counsel

# **EXHIBIT 8**

Subject to the Nondisclosure Provisions of H. Res. 895 of the 110th Congress as Amended

# OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL ETHICS UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

### **MEMORANDUM OF INTERVIEW**

IN RE:

Representative McMorris Rodgers' Legislative Director

**REVIEW NO.:** 

13-0906

DATE:

October 30, 2013

LOCATION:

425 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, SW

V

Washington, DC 20024

TIME:

2:15 p.m. to 3:10 p.m. (approximately)

PARTICIPANTS:

Kedric L. Payne

Bryson B. Morgan

Elliot Berke

<u>SUMMARY</u>: The OCE requested an interview with the witness and he consented to an interview. The witness made the following statements in response to our questioning:

- 1. The witness was given an 18 U.S.C. § 1001 warning and consented to an interview. He signed a written acknowledgement of the warning, which will be placed in the case file in this review.
- 2. The witness is the Director of Member Services for the House Republican Conference. He has served in this position since approximately June 2013. Prior to serving as Director of Member Services, he was Senior Advisor for the Conference from December 2012 to June 2013. He is not currently employed with any additional entities or House offices.
- 3. He was first employed with Representative Cathy McMorris Rodgers beginning in September 2008 as a Staff Assistant in the office for approximately six months. He then became a Field Representative. He served in this capacity for approximately six months and then became a Legislative Fellow around April 2009.
- 4. He left the House during the summer of 2009 to work as a summer associate and then returned to the office as a Legislative Fellow until May 2010. In June 2010, he became Legislative Counsel for the office and stayed with the office until October 2011.
- 5. In October 2011, he became the Legislative Director for Representative Todd Young. In May 2012, he returned to Representative McMorris Rodgers' staff as Deputy Chief of Staff through December 2012.

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- 6. As Legislative Counsel in 2010, the witness was responsible for a portfolio of legislative issues, including energy, agriculture, budget, and military issues. He reported to the Legislative Director, Kim Betz. He told the OCE that as Legislative Counsel, he traveled to the district "occasionally" to meet with farmers to discuss the farm bill.
- 7. As Deputy Chief of Staff in 2012, the witness was responsible for overseeing the "legislative shop" and also had a small portfolio of issues, including energy and agriculture. He also assisted with office scheduling and staffing assignments. He reported to Representative McMorris Rodgers and Jeremy Deutsch. The following staffers reported to the witness: Melanie Steele, Karen Sumer, Kyle Kunkler, and a military fellow from the Department of Defense.
- 8. He told the OCE that he traveled to the district as Deputy Chief of Staff to meet with constituents and assist with logistics.
- 9. When asked whether he was ever paid by Representative McMorris Rodgers' campaign, the witness initially said "no." A few moments later, he stated that he recalled that he may have been off the congressional office payroll and paid by the campaign during the summer of 2010 when he was living in Washington state. He told the OCE that he only did a small amount of work for the campaign that summer because he was studying for the bar exam. His duties were to make sure that people were in the campaign office in the district, which is where he lived at the time. When he worked for the campaign he probably reported to Mr. Deutsch. He stated that he did not remember the Campaign Manager's name.
- 10. When asked whether the witness did campaign work while he was employed by Representative McMorris Rodgers' congressional office, he stated that he did campaign work in his free time outside of working hours. He stated that he, for example, attended campaign receptions in a volunteer capacity, and there may have been a couple of instances in which he reviewed a campaign document, such as policy items or a newspaper insert, in his free time.
- 11. When asked about other persons who staffed the campaign, he stated that he recalled Jessica DeWitt served as a "campaign coordinator" and he recalled Ian Field, Dawn Sugasa, and Stan Shore working on the campaign.
- 12. The witness stated that the congressional office policy for staff doing campaign work was that campaign work could be done during free time. He defined free time as when "you're not at work" or you are at lunch or going out for a walk. He said that campaign work had to be done outside of the office. The witness stated that nobody ever felt coerced to work on the campaign.

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- 13. The witness was shown a Campaign Work Authorization form bearing his name, dated October 12, 2010 (CMROCE-0008). He told the OCE that the form was for his request to work for a United States Senate campaign. He said that the form was necessary whenever someone wanted to have official duties for a campaign, but that it was not required if a staffer wanted to volunteer for a campaign and do general volunteer activity.
- 14. He told the OCE that he was familiar with the Pink Flamingo event. He said that the event was held every August. He initially stated that he did not attend the event in 2012. When the OCE asked him to describe the most recent Pink Flamingo event that he attended, he then recalled that he attended the event in 2012.
- 15. The witness stated the he attended the Pink Flamingo event in 2012 because he was in the district staffing Representative McMorris Rodgers at the time and he recalled one of Mitt Romney's sons attending the event. He said that he was not asked to attend. When asked about his duties for the event, he said he "just hung out." The witness said he did not know whether he attended the event in 2011 or 2010, but that he "maybe" attended in 2011.
- 16. The witness was shown an email to him from Dawn Sugasa regarding "Pink Flamingo Thoughts," dated August 6, 2012 (SMOCE-0068-0069). When asked about the significance of the email, the witness said he was not personally involved in planning the event. The witness said that Richard Leland usually wanted to be involved in the campaign and Mr. Leland was frustrated that his recommendations were not being followed
- 17. The witness was shown an email from Louise Fendrich to him attaching "Oct8Schedule.doc," dated October 9, 2012 (SMOCE-0340-0342). The witness was asked to review the schedule attached to the email and state whether he attended the listed events.
- 18. He told the OCE that he did not attend the event listed for October 9 as "Introduce Santorum/Event," which was held at a hotel in Spokane, because he had no interest in attending the event. He believes that Ryan Rodin attended, and it was a "pro-life type event." The witness said he attended the events at Caterpillar and Wear-Tek. He described these events as tours of company sites that Representative McMorris Rodgers wanted to attend.
- 19. He did not recall attending the phone call with John Carlson on October 10 and he believes that it did not happen. He does not recall attending the Roundtable with Employee Owned Business. He did not attend the events with the wife of a wounded warrior and the World War II veteran. He attended the Senior Roundtable.

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- 20. He did not recall attending the phone interview with the Union Bulletin. He does not believe that he toured the Spokane Renal Center.
- 21. The witness initially stated that he is not sure if he attended the event listed as "Political Homebuilders." The OCE asked him if he recalled attending a meeting where the Homebuilders presented Representative McMorris Rodgers with a campaign contribution. The witness recalled that he attended a meeting with the Homebuilders in 2012 at their office near Spokane and Representative McMorris Rodgers was presented with something but he did not know what it was.
- 22. He said that he did not attend the dinner with Rod and Gig Schneidmiller.
- 23. The witness initially stated that he did not know if he attended the event listed for October 11 as "Editorial Board Spokesman." He then said that he recalled going to a room with a video camera at the Spokesman newspaper in 2012 with Mr. Winer and Representative McMorris Rodgers. Representative McMorris Rodgers was asked her position on various pieces of legislation. He told the OCE that he did not know the purpose of the video. When asked whether he knew that the video was used to compare Representative McMorris Rodgers with her campaign opponent, the witness said "no." From the witness' perspective, the purpose of the event was "reporting" and the witness's role in the event was not campaign related.
- 24. The witness initially stated that he may have attended the "Debate Prep" on October 11. He then said that he "probably" did. He said that the debate preparation session was held at the Congresswoman's home or at a bank building next to the Davenport Hotel. He said that he believed that Dawn Sugasa and Stan Shore were at the debate preparation session. The witness stated that his role in debate preparation was to be there in case policy questions came up, and that he asked to attend because he liked to help out the campaign in his free time.
- 25. The witness stated that he attended the debate on October 12. When asked about his role he said that he was a spectator.
- 26. When asked whether he attended any other campaign events for other candidates with Representative McMorris Rodgers in October 2012, the witness said "no."
- 27. He said that the personal office paid for his travel in October 2012.
- 28. The witness attended the Republican National Convention in August 2012 with Representative McMorris Rodgers. When asked why he attended, he said that he was responsible for the calendar and responsible for managing the demands on Representative McMorris Rodgers' time. He said that he attended the Convention for two or three days

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- Subject to the Nondisclosure Provisions of H. Res. 895 of the 110th Congress as Amended and he believes that Representative McMorris Rodgers' campaign paid for the expenses, but he was not certain.
- 29. The witness said that he took two weeks of vacation in August 2012, which covered his wedding and the time that he was in Tampa for the Convention.
- 30. He stated that he assisted Representative McMorris Rodgers with preparing for debates in 2012. He told the OCE that he was responsible for preparing her for policy questions. Mr. Deutsch and Mr. Winer also attended the debate preparation. The witness was not certain whether Ms. Litman attended. When asked about the number of debate preparation sessions, he said that the sessions were a mix between official work and debate preparation, and stated that there were no "mock debates."
- 31. He stated that Ms. Sugasa or Stan Shore was the lead person in the preparation sessions. When asked how many sessions the witness attended, he said that he probably attended each of them.
- 32. He recalled attending a debate preparation session in the Rayburn House Office Building. He said that the meeting was to discuss policies, and it was more of a staff meeting than a debate preparation session. He stated that they did not hold a mock debate.
- 33. The witness initially told the OCE that he attended a debate preparation session held in Representative McMorris Rodgers' office in the district. He then said that he went to the office and a meeting "morphed" into a debate preparation session. He said that there were never any debate preparation sessions held in the congressional office in Spokane, but rather likely at Representative McMorris Rodgers' home.
- 34. The witness was shown a document titled "Debate Agenda" (SMOCE-0133) and asked whether the debate session in the office had been planned in advance. The witness told the OCE that the Debate Agenda appeared "fabricated" because there were no mock debate sessions. He said the debate sessions did not involve anyone portraying the role of the opponent for a mock debate.
- 35. When the OCE told the witness that the document was part of his production of documents to the OCE, the witness stated that he did not recognize the document, but that he imagined that the debate preparation outlined in the schedule happened but he was not sure where it occurred
- 36. When asked why he attended the debate preparation session, the witness initially told the OCE that he asked to attend the sessions. He then said that the campaign team may have asked him to attend. He said the campaign team was comprised of Ian Field, Ms. Sugasa, and Mr. Shore.

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- 37. He told the OCE that Ms. DeWitt was part of the campaign team. When asked Ms. DeWitt's title with the campaign, the witness said he was uncertain. He said that she may have been the campaign coordinator or maybe the campaign manager. He said that she was responsible for scheduling.
- 38. The witness said that he did not have any conversations with Representative McMorris Rodgers about his attendance at the debate preparation sessions.
- 39. The witness stated that he was not involved in debate preparation sessions in 2010.
- 40. When asked about the work Mr. Winer did for the campaign, the witness said that Mr. Winer reviewed statements and speeches, but he was not part of the campaign.
- 41. The witness was shown a calendar of his travel for October 2012 (SMOCE-071-072) indicating that he traveled to the district during this period. He said that he perhaps attended campaign events during his time in the district, such as a reception in the evening. He stated that while in the district he worked normal work hours for the congressional office, which he described as 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. He said that he was in the district for approximately fourteen days in total in October 2012. When asked who paid for his travel, he stated that it was the congressional office.
- 42. The witness said that around October 2012, Mr. Winer began to have mood swings. He said that Mr. Winer began to become unreliable and his work was bad. Members of the staff were concerned about Mr. Winer's "odd" behavior and even feared for their physical safety. Specifically, Ms. Litman and Mr. Deutsch said that Mr. Winer was acting strange and they were concerned for their safety. Mr. Winer never did anything to the witness personally to make him concerned about his physical safety, but he heard that Mr. Winer hay have said strange things to Mr. Deutsch, such as "be careful out there" or similar statements. The witness also stated he believes Mr. Winer had posted "strange" comments on Facebook regarding the Aurora, Colorado shooting.
- 43. The witness was involved in Representative McMorris Rodgers' race for Conference Chair in 2012. When asked about his responsibilities for the race, he said that he was responsible for various meetings, including meetings with Members and logistics.
- 44. When asked whether he was also involved in a packet and video that were created for the race, he said that he was responsible for distributing the packet. Mr. Shore sent him the file for the packet and the witness emailed the packet to FedEx Kinkos for printing. The witness stated that he believes that Mr. Shore was the person ultimately responsible for the packet.

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- 45. The witness said that he did not recall being aware of a video being produced for the race at the time, but has since learned that a video was made.
- 46. The witness said that Brett O'Donnell is a speech coach and media consultant who was hired to improve Representative McMorris Rodgers' speeches and to help her answer questions. Mr. O'Donnell also assists with television appearances and interviews. The witness stated that he believes Mr. O'Donnell was working for the congresswoman, but he was not aware of his exact title or how he was being paid. The witness stated that Mr. O'Donnell did not have a desk in the congressional office and did not have a cell phone issued by congress.
- 47. The witness attended preparation sessions for television appearances with Mr. O'Donnell and Representative McMorris Rodgers in December 2012. He said that Mr. Deutsch and Ms. Litman as well as other congressional staffers were in attendance at these preparation sessions.
- 48. The witness said that the preparation sessions "most likely" occurred in Representative McMorris Rodgers' personal office, or alternatively, in the car on the way to an appearance. When asked whether the television appearances were campaign related, he said that he considered the appearances to be related to the congressional office, and that he felt that his role in the sessions was assisting the office and not the campaign.
- 49. The witness was asked whether he has worked with Mr. Shore in the Republican Conference. He said that he knew Mr. Shore as a Senior Advisor for the Republican Conference and he was responsible for "quality control," helping with the transition, and setting up the office. He also said that Mr. Shore was a communications consultant who reviews statements. Mr. Shore and the witness worked in the same office and interacted daily in January 2013 or December 2012 forward.
- 50. When asked when the most recent time that he worked with Mr. Shore occurred, the witness initially said during the spring. He was then asked whether he worked with Mr. Shore when he was in the Republican Conference office last week. The witness said that Mr. Shore came by and they spoke about death benefits for veterans, prompting the witness to email some information related to that subject to Mr. Shore. When asked about Mr. Shore's current role with the Republican Conference, the witness said that he does not think that Mr. Shore has a role, perhaps because they are through with the transition now. He stated that Mr. Shore does not provide him with any advice.

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This memorandum was prepared on November 5, 2013, based on the notes that the OCE staff prepared during the interview with the witness on October 30, 2013. I certify that this memorandum contains all pertinent matters discussed with the witness on October 30, 2013.

Kedric L. Payne Deputy Chief Counsel

# **EXHIBIT 9**

Subject to the Nondisclosure Provisions of H. Res. 895 of the 110th Congress as Amended

# OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL ETHICS UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

### MEMORANDUM OF INTERVIEW

IN RE:

Brett O'Donnell

REVIEW NO.:

13-0906

DATE:

November 12, 2013

LOCATION:

425 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, SW

Washington, DC 20024

TIME:

2:05 p.m. to 3:16 p.m. (approximately)

PARTICIPANTS:

Kedric L. Payne Bryson B. Morgan

John W. Kern

<u>SUMMARY</u>: The OCE requested an interview with the witness and she consented to an interview. The witness made the following statements in response to our questioning:

- 1. The witness was given an 18 U.S.C. § 1001 warning and consented to an interview.
- 2. He refused to sign a written acknowledgement of the warning.
- 3. The witness is self-employed with O'Donnell and Associates. He has been the President and Chief Executive Officer of the company for eight years.
- 4. He described the services that the company provides as communication consulting. Specifically, the consulting is related to consulting on matters including media appearances, messaging, public speaking, presentation skills, and debate preparation.
- 5. His clients include Members of Congress, House Committees, government entities, corporations, and non-profit organizations.
- 6. The witness told the OCE that around March 2012, Todd Winer contacted him and asked if the witness would be interested in developing Representative McMorris Rodgers' communications skill and strategy in anticipation of her being a potential Vice Presidential candidate or perhaps serving as a surrogate for Mitt Romney's presidential campaign. The witness did not know Mr. Winer prior to this conversation and does not know whether anyone referred Mr. Winer to him.
- 7. In March 2012, the witness then met with Mr. Winer in Representative McMorris Rodgers' congressional office in the Rayburn House Office Building ("RHOB") to discuss working for her. Approximately one week later, still in March 2012, he also had

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- Subject to the Nondisclosure Provisions of H. Res. 895 of the 110th Congress as Amended an additional meeting with Jeremy Deutsch and Representative McMorris Rodgers about the position.
- 8. The witness told the OCE that the discussions were about the services that he was expected to provide to the Congresswoman, which included assessing her communications skills, preparing her for media appearances, "helping the communications shop," raising her profile, and introducing her to various reporters. The witness stated that campaign activity was not discussed during the meetings about the scope of the job.
- 9. When asked what he meant by "helping the communications shop," the witness stated that he meant that he would assist Todd Winer and Riva Litman with their communications duties.
- 10. In April 2012, the witness began working as a consultant for Representative McMorris.
- 11. The witness stated that he was providing services to Representative McMorris Rodgers across a variety of platforms, but specifically in her capacity as a Member of Congress and as a part of the Republican leadership. He was not providing services to her campaign committee or to her in her capacity as a candidate for office.
- 12. When asked who paid him for his services, the witness said CMR PAC paid him. He said that he was told by Mr. Deutsch that CMR PAC would pay him. The witness said that being paid by Representative McMorris Rodgers' campaign committee was never presented as an option, and that Representative McMorris Rodgers was not involved in any discussions with him regarding the entity from which he was to be paid. He also said that there were no discussions about Representative McMorris Rodgers' personal office paying him.
- 13. The witness said that his other clients usually pay him from their personal congressional office or the person's campaign account. CMR PAC is the only leadership PAC that has ever paid him for his services.
- 14. The witness was shown a Consulting Agreement between CMR PAC and O'Donnell and Associates, Ltd., dated March 26, 2012 (BO\_0006-0009). He said that this document is the agreement for services that he had with Representative McMorris Rodgers. He told the OCE that the following language in the Consulting Agreement under section 1 was a typographical error made when he "cut and pasted" language from a contract with another client: "the consulting services associated with debate preparation of a political candidate engaged in a Client for the United States Senate."

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Subject to the Nondisclosure Provisions of H. Res. 895 of the 110th Congress as Amended

- 15. He said that he had no discussions about providing debate preparation services for Representative McMorris Rodgers until October 2012 when he was asked by either Mr. Deutsch or Mr. Winer to assist with debate preparation. The witness stated that this was the first instance in which he was asked to assist with campaign activities.
- 16. The witness told the OCE that he has never attended any events with Representative McMorris Rodgers in her congressional district.
- 17. The witness assisted Representative McMorris Rodgers with preparing for debates during her 2012 general election campaign. His debate preparation services included preparing an analysis of her opponent, developing a general debate strategy, advising her on how to answer questions in general, and having question and answer sessions of the types of questions she may receive during the debate.
- 18. He recalled that in October 2012 there were multiple debate preparation sessions with Representative McMorris Rodgers. He attended one debate preparation session in person. He recalled that there were multiple debate preparation sessions where he appeared by telephone.
- 19. When asked whether he attended a debate prep session on October 5, 2012, the witness stated that he is uncertain whether he attended that particular session. He stated that he does not recall specific dates of sessions that he attended. The witness was shown a debate preparation schedule that was attached to an email from Mr. Deutsch to the witness and others, dated October 5, 2012 (SMOCE-0133). He again stated that he was not certain which sessions actually occurred or which ones he attended, but he did recall attending several sessions by phone during that time period. He also stated that he was responsible for preparing the Congresswoman for debates.
- 20. The witness recalled attending a debate preparation session on a Sunday with Representative McMorris Rodgers in her congressional office in RHOB. He believes that October 7, 2012 was the date. He said that Mr. Deutsch and Mr. Winer attended. He is not certain whether Riva Litman attended.
- 21. He described the October 7, 2012 preparation session as primarily concerning the debate, but that the meeting also included a discussion of communications and scheduling matters for Representative McMorris Rodgers congressional office. He estimated that the meeting was 60% to 70% concerning debate preparation. The witness stated that the meeting did not include a "mock debate," but the witness recalls that Representative McMorris Rodgers rehearsed certain debate answers and the witness provided feedback on her responses. The other communications matters concerned media interviews for the official office and media preparation related to her duties as Congresswoman. The

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- Subject to the Nondisclosure Provisions of H. Res. 895 of the 110th Congress as Amended witness estimated that the session was more than three hours but not more than five hours.
- 22. When asked whether his debate preparation services were provided to Representative McMorris Rodgers' campaign, the witness stated that the debate preparation services that he provided were "obviously related to her campaign."
- 23. The witness was shown an email from Mr. Deutsch to the witness and others, dated October 11, 2012 (SMOCE-0417), stating "Stan and Brett we will send a call in number later let us know if you can join via phone." The witness told the OCE that he is not certain whether the debate prep session referenced in the email actually occurred or whether he actually attended via phone.
- 24. The witness described the services that he provided to Representative McMorris Rodgers prior to October 2012 as non-campaign related. He stated that his job prior to October 2012 was to assist the "communications shop". He defined the "communications shop" as Mr. Winer and Ms. Litman. He assisted them with interviews, framing certain issues, and other media issues related to Representative McMorris Rodgers role as Congresswoman.
- 25. He assisted Representative McMorris Rodgers with her race for Chair of the House Republican Conference. He said that in September or October of 2012, or perhaps a bit earlier, Mr. Deutsch asked him to assist with the race for Conference Chair. The witness told the OCE that the services he provided for the Conference Chair race became part of the work that he was already doing under his consulting agreement with Representative McMorris Rodgers. The witness said that the services for the Conference Chair race were not for her campaign committee.
- 26. The services he provided for the Conference Chair race included messaging, general strategy, and media consulting. Overall, he worked on improving her communication skills. He told the OCE that he was familiar with the packet and video that Representative McMorris Rodgers sent out for her Conference Chair race. He reviewed the packet, but was not involved in the developing of the video.
- 27. In December 2012, the witness assisted Representative McMorris Rodgers with her transition to Conference Chair. The services he provided included raising her public profile and improving her communications skills. The witness stated that Mr. Deutsch told him to assist with the transition to Conference Chair, so he did it.
- 28. He also assisted with interviewing candidates for the positions of Communications Director of the Republican Conference. He attended the interviews with Mr. Deutsch and Stan Shore. He recalled that Mildred Webber may have also attended the interviews.

Subject to the Nondisclosure Provisions of H. Res. 895 of the 110th Congress as Amended

- 29. He told the OCE that he was not responsible for any press releases for Representative McMorris Rodgers' congressional office. Ms. Litman drafted these releases in December 2012, and the witness stated that he may have reviewed press releases and may have written one or two.
- 30. During December 2012, Mr. Deutsch gave the witness assignments related to communications for Representative McMorris Rodgers, including scheduling media appearances.
- 31. The witness was also responsible for preparing Representative McMorris Rodgers for various interviews and television appearances in December 2012. The witness stated that he attended preparation sessions with the Congresswoman where he evaluated her prior interviews, general techniques, and discussed potential questions she may be asked.
- 32. The witness told the OCE that the preparation sessions were typically done via telephone or in Representative McMorris Rodgers' congressional office. The length of the preparation sessions could range from fifteen minutes to an hour.
- 33. The witness was shown two emails to him from Ms. Litman, dated December 4, 2012 (BO\_0055, BO\_0066). He told the OCE that he was in Washington, DC on December 4, 2012 and he believes he attended the preparation session for Representative McMorris Rodgers referenced in the emails, be he did not recall the meeting specifically.
- 34. The witness was shown an email to him from Ms. Litman, dated December 5, 2012 (BO\_0072). He stated that he believes that he was not in town on December 5, 2012, and likely attended the preparation session referenced in the email via telephone, although he has no specific recollection of the session.
- 35. The witness was shown an email to him from Ms. Litman, dated December 11, 2012 (BO\_0087). The witness stated that he is not certain whether the preparation session referenced in the email actually happened. The witness keeps records of the scheduled dates for preparation sessions, but he does not record whether the scheduled sessions actually occur.
- 36. The witness was shown an email to him from Amy Harris, dated December 11, 2012 (BO\_0089-0092). He recalled attending Representative McMorris Rodgers press conference at the triangle at the Capitol on December 12, 2012. He also recalled preparing the Congresswoman for the press conference. He believes that he prepared her in a congressional office in the Cannon House Office Building or at the triangle.

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Subject to the Nondisclosure Provisions of H. Res. 895 of the 110th Congress as Amended

- 37. The witness was shown and email to him from Amy Harris, dated December 13, 2013 (BO\_0106). He believes that he attended the preparation session on December 14, 2012 with the Congresswoman that is referenced in the email.
- 38. He recalled that the media appearances in December 2012 typically concerned the issue of the "fiscal cliff."
- 39. He stated that the media preparation services in December 2012 were "certainly not" for Representative McMorris Rodgers' campaign committee because it was December and past the election. He was providing services to Representative McMorris Rodgers as a Member of Congress and as a leader of Congress, as she was "definitely" not doing the media appearances as a candidate for Congress.
- 40. The witness also stated that in December, 2012 he also continued to assist Representative McMorris Rodgers' "communications shop," interacting with Riva Litman and Nate Hodson regarding communications matters.
- 41. The witness initially billed his services for November and December 2012 to CMR PAC. He revised the invoice and billed Representative McMorris Rodgers' campaign committee at Mr. Deutsch's request and was ultimately paid by the campaign. Mr. Deutsch did not tell the witness why CMR PAC should not be billed, but the witness saw an email that indicated that CMR PAC did not have funds to pay the bill.
- 42. The witness sends invoices to clients at the beginning of each month for services that will be provided during the upcoming month. He told the OCE that his November invoice to Representative McMorris Rodgers' campaign committee was for the services he provided in November and also included travel expenses that he incurred in October 2012.
- 43. He told the OCE that he never had any conversations with Representative McMorris Rodgers concerning whether CMR PAC or her campaign committee would pay for his services.
- 44. In January 2013, the witness began providing general communications advice to the House Republican Conference in addition to providing communications advice to Representative McMorris Rodgers. He described the duties that he provided to Representative McMorris Rodgers in January 2013 as being the same as he had provided when he began working for her in April 2012.
- 45. The witness told the OCE that the payment arrangement is for the Republican Conference to pay for half of his fees and for CMR PAC to pay the other half. He does not do any work for Representative McMorris Rodgers' campaign committee.

Subject to the Nondisclosure Provisions of H. Res. 895 of the 110th Congress as Amended

- 46. The witness was shown a Consulting Agreement between O'Donnell and Associates and Representative McMorris Rodgers, dated January 1, 2013 (CMROCE-0345-348). He told the OCE that this Consulting Agreement is the current agreement under which he works. He said that the agreement was never amended to show the payment arrangement with the Republican Conference. He recalled that in January or February 2013 it was determined that his fee would be split between the Conference and CMR PAC.
- 47. When asked whether he was ever paid by Representative McMorris Rodgers personal congressional office, the witness initially said no. He was then shown a document titled "Brett Payment/Calendar" (CMROCE-0367). He then recalled that Representative McMorris Rodgers' personal office paid him from January 2013 to March 2013. He billed the personal office at Mr. Deutsch's request.
- 48. He stopped billing the personal office in March 2013 and began billing CMR PAC in May 2013 at Mr. Deutsch's request. The witness stated that Mr. Deutsch did not give a reason for the change in payment sources. The witness said that he was not aware of the change in payment sources being related to any press inquiries into the payment arrangement.
- 49. When asked why his fee increased to \$6,400 in April 2013, the witness stated that he is paid a per hour fee for any additional communications consulting that he provides to the House Republican Conference beyond the standard monthly services. He said that all of the fees above \$2,500 per month for the Republican Conference are the result of such additional communications consulting.
- 50. During his time working for the Republican Conference, the witness' interaction with Mr. Shore has been minimal. He recalled working with Mr. Shore in February 2013 because they collaborated on a speech for Representative McMorris Rodgers' appearance at the Conservative Political Action Conference.
- 51. When asked when he most recently communicated with Mr. Shore, the witness stated that Mr. Shore was in the Republican Conference office in October 2013. The witness was in the office to attend a meeting about media. He said that Mr. Shore did not attend the meeting. The witness does not know who employs Mr. Shore.

This memorandum was prepared on November 13, 2013, based on the notes that the OCE staff prepared during the interview with the witness on November 12, 2013. I certify that this memorandum contains all pertinent matters discussed with the witness on November 12, 2013.

Kedric L. Payne Deputy Chief Counsel

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# **EXHIBIT 10**

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# Reagan, Amy

From:

Conley, Rashelle

Sent:

Wednesday, November 06, 2013 8:35 PM

To: Subject: Deutsch, Jeremy April 2012 Records

Attachments:

Bell April 2012.pdf; Deutsch April 2012.pdf; Litman April 2012.pdf

### Riva Litman

- Bággage Fees
  - \$48.00
  - Voucher 1122040
  - Service Dates: 04/02/12 04/06/12
  - Paid: 04/30/12
- Meals
  - \$176.52
  - Voucher 1122040
  - Service Dates: 04/02/12 04/06/12
  - Paid: 04/30/12
- Local Transportation
  - \$81.00
  - Voucher 1122040
  - Service Dates: 04/02/12 04/06/12
  - Paid: 04/30/12
- o Flight
  - \$355.60
  - Voucher 1122049
  - Service Dates: 04/06/12
  - Paid: 05/29/12
- Baggage Fees
  - \$25,00
  - Voucher 1122049
  - Service Dates: 04/06/12
  - Paid: 05/29/12
- Flight
  - \$444.60
  - Voucher 1122050
  - Service Dates: 04/02/12
  - Paid: 05/29/12
- Lodging
  - \$385,24
  - Voucher 1122051
  - Service Dates: 04/02/12 04/06/12
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### Jeremy Deutsch

- Flight
  - \$242.80
  - Voucher 1122055
  - Service Dates: 04/29/12
  - Paid: 05/29/12

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CMROCE-0663

### Flight

- \$111,80
- Voucher 1122050
- Service Dates: 04/05/12
- Paid: 05/29/12

### Flight

- \$308.60
- Voucher 1122051
- Service Dates: 04/13/12
- Paíd: 05/29/12

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- \$570.60
- Voucher 1122052
- Service Dates: 04/14/12
- Pald: 05/29/12

### Baggage Fees

- \$25.00
- Voucher 1122052
- Service Dates: 04/10/12
- Paid: 05/29/12

### • Flight

- \$131.60
- Voucher 1122054
- Service Dates: 04/30/12
- Paid: 05/24/12

## Lodging

- \$589.86
- Voucher 1122051
- Service Dates: 03/30/12 04/05/12
- Paid: 05/29/12

### Lodging

- \$589.86
- Voucher 1122053
- Service Dates: 04/08/12 04/12/12
- Paid: 05/24/12

### Patrick Bell

### Baggage Fees

- \$20.00
- Voucher 1122041
- Service Dates: 04/05/12
- Paid: 04/30/12

### Meals

- \$120.95
- Voucher 1122041
- Service Dates: 04/02/12 04/05/12
- Paid: 04/30/12

# Flight

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- Voucher 1122050
- Service Dates: 04/02/12
- Paid: 05/29/12

### Flight

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CMROCE-0664

- \$254.60
- Voucher 1122050
- Service Dates: 04/05/12
- Pald: 04/29/12

Rashelle Conley
Executive Assistant/Financial Administrator
Congresswoman Cathy McMorris Rodgers (WA-05)
10 N. Post St. Ste 625- Spokane, WA 99201

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